

# Gay Community News

THE NATIONAL LESBIAN AND GAY WEEKLY SINCE 1973

MARCH 8-21, 1992

VOLUME 19 NO. 31-32

NON-PROFIT BIPAD: 65498

\$1.25

Clara and Linda Villarosa



## Black lesbians and gay men celebrate, network in Oakland

*Fifth annual conference marked by focus on family; alternative conference raises issues of Afro-centricity and class*

**By Jody Benjamin**

OAKLAND, Calif.—Neither a last minute change of hotel sites, nor an alternative conference that might have drawn participants away could dampen the mood at the Fifth Annual National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Conference held here Feb. 13-17.

Most folks seemed more concerned about the sometimes heavy rain than their accommodations at Oakland's Airport Hilton. And the alternative conference, sponsored by the Oakland branch of Black Men's Exchange, never seemed to catch on among people who had traveled from all parts of the country to be at the Leadership Conference.

When it was all over, the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, which organizes the annual conference, had registered a record 600 people who attended sessions that ranged from the practical sessions on computer training, lobbying and fundraising; to the more exploratory sessions on ageism, relationships, strategies for recovery from chemical dependence and incest, and how to move beyond differences and conflict; to the internal workings of AIDS buyers clubs and ACT UP for people of color. The conference also offered day-long institutes on AIDS, spirituality, political organizing, women's issues and cultural development. Additionally, Marlon Riggs' two newest films saw their world premieres: *Color Adjustment*, about television's images of Black Americans, and *Passing Judgment*, Riggs' newest celebration/exploration of Black gay sexuality.

"For five years we have gathered, they said it couldn't be done," said conference co-founder Phill Wilson at the opening plenary.

"They said the wrong people were doing it," he continued. "And yet here we are again and it's time to ask why. Every year there is

another empty seat. And that is why we gather. To celebrate their lives by connecting with each other."

This is the first year the conference was held in Oakland, a port city that is by varying estimates around 50% African American, directly across the Bay from the more affluent San Francisco. Unity, a Bay Area umbrella group of Black lesbian and gay organizations, hosted the weekend's events.

"It was time for Oakland to get a positive shot in the arm," said Unity co-chair Talanda McKinney, "and I think we've done it."

At the last minute, the conference site was changed from the announced Clarion Hotel, due to the hotel's inability to accommodate the expected number of conference-goers. According to Bay Area conference host, Unity co-chair Anthony Farmer, a shortage on available rooms and poor service were among the reasons that prompted the switch.

"We decided to change about ten days out. It was very tense," said Farmer. "But I'm very satisfied with the way things turned out."

### Alternative conference

Black Men's Exchange, one of the groups participating in Unity at the start of the planning for the Leadership Forum's conference, decided to hold a conference of their own the same weekend.

"We just wanted to give people an option for this weekend," said Black Men's Exchange founder Cleo Manago, "and we felt that if we held our conference the week before or after, obviously people would not come twice."

The Black Men's Exchange (BMX) credo is Afro-centric, and BMX organizers made that a major point of contention with the Leadership Forum. An announcement the BMX National Cultural Gathering and

Retreat reads: "We as Black men who love men choose to not separate from our communities, as many groups and organizations do that include Black so-called 'lesbians' and 'gays.' We believe that the remedy to minimizing homophobia and related social and political irritants in the African American community is to support and embrace the full spectrum of Black life and our global community."

BMX also contended that the Black Forum's conference was too expensive.

The BMX events, which were free of charge, included a panel on "Living in the Age of AIDS," a day of rap sessions for men and women and two nights of dancing. But some conference-goers felt that the impact of the retreat did not always measure up to organizers' claims. For example, the conference was not truly national in scope. Over three days, it attracted about 100 people, mainly BMX members from Los Angeles and Sacramento.

### Cost debated

At the Leadership Conference, issues of Afrocentricity and class were part of an ongoing dialogue among both conference organizers and participants.

The registration fee for the Leadership Forum conference was \$110, with the banquet and institutes costing extra. However, many conference-goers reportedly took advantage of the Leadership Forum's volunteer program, which accepted fifty dollars and eight hours of volunteer time in exchange for attending the workshops.

"They were very relaxed about it. All I did was put up a few signs and move a television in for a workshop," said Jendayi Plaid of Oakland. "It worked out well for me."

*Continued on page 11*

## Exploring condoms at the Black gay confab

*"If you're knocking the boots, you ought to wear a coat of latex."—MC KGB from The Knowledge Spelled C-O-N-D-O-M.*

**By Jody Benjamin**

OAKLAND, Calif.—"C-O-N-D-O-M! C-O-N-D-O-M!" the roomful of Black gay men chanted, hyped up and calling for more. KGB and crew had just closed the workshop entitled, "Rap City: Safe Time in Sextown," with a rap over Janet Jackson's 1990 single, "The Knowledge." The workshop was one of approximately 60 held during the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Conference held February 13-17 (see story, page 1). More a performance than an interactive workshop, the session included four original raps from MC KGB, a reading by San Francisco poet Wayne Corbitt and provocative safer sex tips.

Here's the scenario: Oaktown drag queen diva "Madame X" opens with a pumping dance/lip sync routine to Jody Watley's "I Want You." Still gasping for breath, X begins her demonstration of how to put on a condom the sexy way—with your mouth. She hands a "volunteer" from the audience a life-size dildo, which he stuffs through the fly of his jeans. To shouts of "alright" and "go girl!" Madame X accomplishes her task in no time. "Look, Mom, no hands!" says X, giving her widest show-girl grin.

### Rappin' AIDS

Madame X is part of the latest manifestation of the rap act MC KGB, along with poet Corbitt and dancers. Kevin Brooks created his alias, rapper MC KGB, to spread AIDS education in local clubs over the last three years.

"Rap is such a great medium for instilling knowledge," said Brooks, a computer programmer by day and deejay in local Black gay clubs by night. "Gay Black brothers need something we can be proud of, so my raps are about positive gay lifestyles and positive self esteem. They are so brothers won't be scared to come out and say, 'yes, I am a gay man with AIDS.'"

When Brooks started to rap in 1989, it was in places where he was already deejaying part time, but he found that patrons did not warm to his safer sex message.

"You know, some folks think rap is not a talented thing and so they didn't pay me any attention," he said. "But I think a lot of it had something to do with denial in the Black community around AIDS and the things I was talking about."

Determined to develop his own brand of "edu-tainment," Brooks began to write raps to more recognizable beats. In one of his first efforts, he got people listening by doing a version of a Heavy D rap popular at the time.

"People were impressed that I could do Heavy D's rap and that got them on their feet," he said. "Then, as soon as I finished that I went right into my rap and that's how I got them."

### First-hand experience

Brooks was diagnosed with Kaposi's Sarcoma in 1986. He found his diagnosis very difficult to accept. "I went through my Gloria Swanson act," he laughs now. "It was very emotional." Brooks points out that in 1986, there were no AIDS support groups for African American men in the San Francisco Bay Area, although the population comprised a large percent of all AIDS cases.

"My Shanti volunteer [AIDS buddy] was white, but he was very good. I said, 'I can't

*Continued on page 6*

## Quote of the week

"I took Sara's face in my hands and started licking her lips. Suddenly, she opened her mouth and I stuck my tongue in—a full-tongue major kiss."

—*Drew Barrymore (child star of E.T., The Extra Terrestrial and Firestarter) describes a kissing scene she appears in for the upcoming film Poison Ivy. Her partner for this tempestuous sequence? None other than Sara Gilbert, who plays the tomboy younger daughter Darlene on TV's Roseanne. Drew's quote comes from the tabloid The Star, which headlined the blurb, "Drew's kinky kiss gets wet and wild."*

## Quote of last week

"In no way am I promoting infantile sexuality. A lot of men recognize a part of you is forever 12 years old. That's what this is about. I in no way want to promote sexism."

—*Mike Myers deconstructs his Wayne Campbell character, featured in the hit movie Wayne's World, for Rolling Stone magazine.*

## Quote of next week

"Two years ago... I was totally fucked up.... But I'm okay now. I've found someone I really love. I'm so in love, it's wonderful. I'm quite comfortable about being gay. I've finally resolved every one of the problems that I had."

—*Elton John finally nails it down for Rolling Stone.*

## Domestic partner rights for D.C.

WASHINGTON—The District of Columbia Council voted unanimously March 3 to approve unique domestic partnership protections for gay men, lesbians and others in committed relationships.

The measure allows people to register as partners, provides DC government employees paid medical leave when a partner is sick or dies, permits visitation rights to a patient's partner and allows access to school and day care records of a partner's dependent. It is also the first law in the U.S. to offer tax breaks to private employers that provide health insurance for domestic partners.

Gay and lesbian activists have praised the partnership law, calling it unique in the mid-Atlantic region. "This goes further than what other cities have done," said Ivy Young, director of the Lesbian and Gay Families Project at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

To be enacted, the new law must survive a 30-day review period in Congress that gives hostile legislators time to override such gay-positive laws. A "resolution of disapproval" tacked on to a House of Representatives appropriations measure or a Senate bill could kill or delay the new law.

Congressional delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton assured gay and lesbian leaders that she will secure approval of the law. The non-voting member of Congress urged activists around the U.S. to call their Congresspeople.

—*John Zeh*

## St. Patrick's day excludes gay Irish in NYC and Boston

BOSTON—The St. Patrick's Day Parade committees in Boston and New York City have firmly announced their exclusion of gay and lesbian Irish marchers.

The Irish American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Pride Committee of Boston asked the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council, which has organized the parade since 1946, in February to be included in the March. Following meeting with the gay committee, the Council announced March 3 that the gay group would not be allowed, a decision Council spokespeople said was based on safety and questions of whether the group, which was formed in February and claims 10 members, is illegitimate. "[Their] sole purpose [is] of disrupting us," parade organizer John Hurley told the *Boston Herald*.

Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn, who is Irish and will march in the parade, told the *Boston Herald*, "it would be inaccurate... to suggest... any kind of discrimination." But Gov. Weld called the Council's decision "discriminatory" and publicly urged Flynn to "let [the gay group] march."

Kay said the group plans to file complaints with the Human Rights Commission and the Massachusetts Commission Against

Discrimination (under the gay rights law enacted in 1989), and is also looking into a lawsuit through the Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders.

In New York, the state chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, which runs the New York parade, is excluding Irish gay men and lesbians despite reportedly assuring Mayor David Dinkins, who removed the parade permit from the city chapter in January, that they would allow the gay group (See *GCN* Vol. 18, No. 34, and Vol. 19, No. 26).

Last year, Dinkins marched with the New York Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization in protest of and behind the traditional parade. Dinkins and the gay marchers were heckled and showered with beer cans. The gay organization filed a discrimination suit filed in federal court March 2, according to Dave O'Connor of the Boston chapter of the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization, which has been fighting for inclusion in the New York parade, but will not seek to march in Boston's.

The Arch Diocese of New York reportedly urged the Ancient Order to stand firm with no compromises on March 4. The Ancient Order has said it may give up its parade permit and let another group run the parade if the court rules in favor of the gay group.

—*Carrie Wofford*

## Cathcart leaves GLAD for Lambda

BOSTON—Kevin Cathcart, executive director of New England's Boston-based Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD), announced March 3 that he will leave GLAD to head Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the nation's oldest and largest lesbian and gay legal organization. Cathcart will begin his new position May 11. He replaces Tom Stoddard, who resigned January 6.

Harry H. Harkins, Jr., a co-chair of Lambda's board of directors, praised Cathcart's "extensive background and enormous experience." Carol L. Buell, Lambda's other board co-chair, praised Cathcart's "commitment and the experience to move us forward on issues of multiculturalism and pluralism."

Cathcart said he is looking forward to working on a larger, national scale.

When asked about last year's controversy over Lambda's decision to sponsor a benefit with the Broadway musical, *Miss Saigon*, Cathcart said, "It is critical that the staff, board and clients of our community organizations reflect the true diversity of the lesbian and gay community.... Diversity and class issues have tremendous impact on people's ability to believe that organizations, or lawyers in particular, are there for them."

Cathcart started as the sole staffperson at GLAD in 1984. GLAD now has seven and a half full-time staff positions and houses an AIDS Law Project.

Cathcart's activist background includes working in the early 1980s with Boston Lesbians and Gay Men Against the Right (BLAGMAR) and serving as president of *Gay Community News'* board of directors, as well as, for a brief period of time *GCN's* Features Editor.

—*Michael Bronski/Carrie Wofford*

## Rutgers U. rejects gay historian Katz

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.—The Rutgers University theater department rejected a theater piece submitted by gay historian Jonathan Katz for production because the piece was homoerotic.

Katz, author of *Gay American History*, had submitted *Comrades and Lover*, a play about Walt Whitman for production at Rutgers University's Levin Theater. Playwriting chair Roger Cornish wrote to Katz in a letter dated Oct. 28 that "The piece reads as apology for or celebration of homoeroticism.... It strikes me as unrealistic to expect a tax-supported institution to spend its hard won (and recently diminished) public funding to produce a work which would be characterized by many New Jersey taxpayers as propaganda for a form of sexual behavior they find repellent."

Cornish suggested to Katz in the letter, which was detailed in the Winter issue of *American Writer*, the National Writers Union newsletter, that he find audiences and theaters "among the converted."

Katz responded that "Such a content-based objection constitutes an illegitimate and dangerous limit on free speech and expression.... You act as censor and politician." Katz contacted the Rutgers' lesbian and gay group, as well as others, the ACLU

and the National Writers Union.

Among the responses, Katz told *GCN*, was a letter from a law professor at Rutgers, Nadine Taub, to the Rutgers president saying that "judgments based on content of speech clearly implicate the First Amendment." Tufts University professor of drama and director of graduate studies Laurence Senelick also wrote the president protesting the infringement of academic freedom with the arts.

New York's Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation director Ellen Carton also challenged Cornish's statement that the play lacked the opposing perspective. "The existence of gay and lesbian people is not in question," Carton wrote, according to Katz.

After meeting with Cornish, the chair of President's Select Committee for Lesbian and Gay Concerns, James D. Anderson, an associate dean and professor, defended Cornish to Taub and the president. Katz criticized Anderson as a "professional gay" who he believes "caved in to this guy. It's not the spirit of militancy or the gay and lesbian movement."

Katz will speak to the Rutgers gay and lesbian alumnae group April 3 about Walt Whitman. He intends to raise concerns about Cornish and Anderson's defense of Cornish.

The National Writers Union is calling for a letter zap of Roger Cornish.

—*Carrie Wofford*

## ACT UP & NGLTF's Vaid have run-in

WASHINGTON—Members of ACT UP/NY experienced a run-in with National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Urvashi Vaid Feb. 18 over tactics at a demonstration.

ACT UP's CDC working group, which has been pressuring the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for two years to recognize and track the opportunistic infections of women, asked Vaid for help in finding a lawyer for their protest of a meeting of government officials and nonprofit AIDS policy experts to discuss women's infections. The activists said the meeting lacked community input and excluded HIV-positive women, and demanded public hearings nation-wide.

After a lawyer backed out the morning of the demonstration, Vaid agreed to be a legal observer, a role which involves watching a demonstration—as a nonparticipant—to track police abuses and demonstrators' legal rights.

ACT UP activists charge Vaid with leaking information about the demonstration to political colleagues at the ACLU and Gay Men's Health Crisis to whom activists intended to handcuff themselves if those policy staff would not agree to cancel the meeting. They also charge Vaid with interrupting the demonstration mid-way three times to suggest activists remove their handcuffs, a suggestion activists ignored.

"If [Vaid] had... just left, I would have understood. But she continued to stay and compromise our position," explained ACT UP's Heidi Dorow. Vaid was unavailable for comment, but reportedly has told other press she refuses to air publicly what she sees as a private debate.

ACT UP members are also frustrated that professional non-profit AIDS policy workers would agree to a meeting that excluded activists and HIV-positive women in debating the rights of those women. "Clearly something is compromised over time [by AIDS professionals]," Dorow said. "How do AIDS policy advisers think [they] can represent everyone infected?"

Jeff Levi, a policy analyst for the national AIDS Action Council called the ACT UP demonstration "an act of violence within our own community." He was handcuffed to and by an ACT UP member for two hours, which he called "an assault." Levi told *GCN*, "If they would have paid attention to what we were doing at that meeting, they would have [seen]... we are on the same side."

### New AIDS definition

The CDC has been accepting public comment until Feb. 14 on their proposed new definition of AIDS, which would add HIV-positive people with low t-cell counts, but not women and injection drug users who suffer gynecological and heart and blood-related infections, respectively, that are currently not included in the CDC's list of infections which makes up the AIDS definition.

Individuals who do not meet the CDC's definition of AIDS, which was drawn up in 1987 when most cases were among men with better health care, do not qualify for Medicare or federal disability benefits under current regulations. The government reported last year that 48 percent of women who

have died of AIDS did not meet the CDC's definition of AIDS.

Activists have criticized the use of t-cell counts as a method that is too expensive and without confidentiality for many HIV-positive people. ACT UP coordinated over 10,000 postcards protesting the new definition during the public comment period.

Dorow expects the new definition to be announced in April, at which time cities with higher numbers of people with CDC-defined AIDS could qualify for congressional monies under the Ryan White CARE Act.

"I think we've lost this battle," Dorow said. "People have gone to the wall on this. [But] we were sold down the river by all those AIDS policy makers."

—*Carrie Wofford*

## For the Activist in You

### National

- North East Lesbian and Gay Student Union Conference, March 27-29, Newark, Delaware. Info: Vicki (302) 831-8066.

- Zap Roger Cornish, Playwriting Chair at Rutgers University for rejecting a gay play. (See article, page 2): c/o Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08903. Also write Rutgers President Dr. Francis L. Lawrence, Rutgers U., New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

- Tell the government that proposed changes in the food-labeling laws (making pesticides and radiation of food more hidden from consumers) are wrong. For questionnaire (to be sent to the Food & Drug Administration) and information on the laws, send address and envelope to Center for Science in the Public Interest, 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20009.

- Logo competition for the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay & Bi Equal Rights and Liberation T-shirts and merchandise. March 31 deadline. Info: Valerie Saleski (313) 285-9031.

- A call to action/national conference to fight back on the economic front, March 28, Baltimore. Join union rank and file, communities, and peoples organizations. Info: (617) 424-1176.

- "Making it Perfectly Queer," second national gay/lesbian graduate student conference, April 2-4, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Info: Cris Mayo, Dept. of Education Policy Studies, U. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 360 Education Bldg., South Sixth Street, Champaign, IL 61820.

- March 13 deadline for grants to Lesbian Writers Fund of Astraea national Lesbian Action Foundation. Five awards of \$11,000 for fiction and poetry (3 fiction, 2 poetry) made in June, 1992. Info: Lesbian Writers Fund, Astraea, 666 Broadway, Suite 520, NYC, NY 10012; (212) 529-8021.

- 16th annual conference of Southeastern Women's Studies Assoc., March 12-15 at the University of South Florida, Tampa. "Celebrating Feminisms and the Diversity of Women." Info: Laura Ellenburg; (813) 974-2403.

### New England

- St. Patrick's Day Parade in Boston, Sun. March 15 (the Irish American Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Pride Committee is not allowed to march, see story p. 2). Also call Mayor Flynn to demand that he march with the gay group: (617) 635-4500. Info: (617) 695-8051.

- NYC parade March 17. Info: (212) 967-7711, x 3078.

- Boston regional planning meeting for the 1993 National March on Washington, Sat. March 14, 11 a.m. at the Center, 338 Newbury St. Info: (617) 262-3149.

- Demand that state legislators restore the children's clothing allowance to Aid to Families with Dependent Children. Weld's proposed FY 1993 budget (filed Jan. 22) completely omits the clothing allowance (\$150 per child per year).

Three new factors make reinstatement of the allowance feasible: AFDC currently has a \$21 million surplus, requiring only \$7 million in added state funds to clothe over 200,000 children; Gov. Weld has filed two supplemental budgets (H.1000 and H. 1997) that would give AFDC an additional \$227 million; and the legislature did reinstate half of the clothing allowance for all children for this year (FY '92). Ask your Rep./Sen., to include the full allowance for FY '93: write c/o State House, Boston, MA 02133. Call 722-2000. Info: Steve Savner, Mass. Law Reform (617) 742-9250 or the Coalition for Basic Human Needs (617) 497-0126.

*Got activist news? Phone (617) 426-4469; fax (617) 426-2723.*

—*Carrie Wofford*

# Assessing the candidates

While many of the Democrats speak a good line on gay rights, their records don't match up

By Dawn Schmitz

WASHINGTON—As the Democratic presidential primary heats up, gay and lesbian activists say they are hearing their concerns voiced more consistently by more candidates than in any other presidential election to date. Members of ACT UP are forcing candidates to articulate their positions on AIDS by loudly confronting them in virtually every state where they campaign. At the same time, national organizations are slapping the candidates with detailed questionnaires on gay/lesbian and AIDS issues—and often getting them back answered.

But do the candidates' actions match their rhetoric? Often, their answers to questionnaires and the other statements they make to activists appear to reflect viewpoints that do not match their congressional or gubernatorial records—a fact which has made many activists question the value of putting much emphasis on questionnaires.

Even looking at voting records can be misleading because such records do not take into account whether a candidate has used his power and influence, rather than just his votes, to affect the outcome of legislation. Some activists recommend examining the candidates' behavior on the campaign trail, as well as taking a closer look at their political history.

## Contradictions: Harkin and Kerrey

Senators Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), who seems close to dropping out of the race after defeat in the March 3 primaries, and Bob Kerrey (D-Nebr.), who dropped out March 4, provide the most stark examples of candidates who, when confronted, say they support gay and lesbian rights despite questionable congressional records.

While both candidates stated on questionnaires given to them by the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) that, as president, they would "advocate, sign and enforce the Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Act," neither of the two senators have signed on as co-sponsors of the same act. Since the legislation cannot go to the floor for a vote until it has received enough co-sponsors, activists consider their failure to sign on a "litmus

test" of their sincerity.

Harkin continues to adamantly refuse to co-sponsor the bill, telling activists that he never co-sponsors legislation, and reportedly becoming agitated when questioned on the issue. Kerrey expressed interest in considering the issue further—although he, too, becomes angry and flustered when confronted by activists—according to members of ACT UP.

Both candidates indicated on the questionnaire that they, as president, would sign an executive order ending the Department of Defense's policy excluding gay men and lesbians, yet they have both refused to co-sponsor a congressional resolution calling upon President Bush to rescind the policy, according to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

In addition, members of ACT UP have challenged the records of both senators on AIDS care and prevention.

Steve Michael of ACT UP's Presidential Project points out that as senators, neither candidate has moved to propose legislation to enact the recommendations put forth by the National Commission on AIDS. And worse yet, Harkin, as chair of the Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee, managed to allocate funding for the Ryan White CARE Act, a major AIDS funding act, at \$200 million—a quarter of the amount that was recommended when it hit his committee.

Michael said he and other ACT UP members became frustrated when their confrontations with Harkin and Kerrey ended in assertions by the candidates that gay and lesbian groups have given them "A" ratings, referring to NGLTF score cards based upon their congressional voting records.

After ACT UP members contacted NGLTF, however, NGLTF lobbyist Peri Jude Radevic issued scathing letters to the Harkin and Kerrey campaigns, informing them that their voting records for the first half of the current congressional session were a "C" for Harkin and an "F" for Kerrey. She further admonished them to stop misrepresenting their records.

Among the reasons given for lowering the

Continued on page 6



## ACT UP descends on N.H. primary

MANCHESTER, N.H.—Several hundred AIDS activists from ACT UP chapters in Boston, Maine, New Hampshire and surrounding areas staged a die-in in front of Pres. Bush's re-election headquarters as they marched through downtown Manchester, Feb. 15, the Saturday before the primary. Demonstrators were calling for presidential candidates to address AIDS.

According to the *Manchester Union Leader*, several hundred protesters rushed through the empty Bush-Quayle campaign headquarters and broke a storefront window, a claim unconfirmed by activists.

When they marched past the headquarters of Patrick Buchanan, a handful of demonstrators argued heatedly with a Buchanan volunteer, activists said.

A dozen activists later interrupted Bush during a speech, charging him with ignoring people who are dying. "The president has ignored AIDS for far too long," said ACT UP/NH member Michael Petrelis. "We want real leadership from the White House."

Several activists also heckled Democratic presidential candidate Bob Kerrey, challenging him to address AIDS, the *Manchester Union Leader* reported. Kerrey reportedly responded, "Shame on you for asking."

When Democratic candidate Bill Clinton encountered the activists, he said he opposed the way the government has dealt with AIDS, "which is [to] deny, deny, deny." Earlier in the day, Clinton campaign volunteers applauded the ACT UP marchers, but the activists chanted, "Sodomy laws in Arkansas. Where was Clinton?" and "Come on Bill, what's your plan?"

—Carrie Wofford

## Miller boycott pits gay union activists vs. the gay right

By Dawn Schmitz

BOSTON—An appeal to the gay and lesbian community by a Teamsters local for a boycott of Miller beer products has brought support from many progressives and disdain from a number of bar owners and local gay newspapers. Gay critics of the boycott say the Teamsters' dispute with the local distributor of Miller is not based upon concerns specifically relevant to gay men and lesbians. However, pro-labor gay and lesbian activists defend the boycott, stressing the inherent value of supporting unions.

"We think it's important for these two communities to support each other," said Tess Ewing, a member of the Gay and Lesbian Labor Activist Network of Boston (GALLAN). "We come from the point of view of being both pro-union and pro-gay."

Although some gay-specific union demands have been settled, contract negotiations are now centering around issues such as health insurance and drug testing of workers. Boycott supporters stress that these are issues of concern to gay men and lesbians.

Workers at Burke Distributing Corporation, the Boston area distributor of Miller products, have been working without a contract since October, according to John Murphy, business agent and a member of the negotiating team for Teamsters Local 122. The Local approached members of the gay and lesbian community early this year in an attempt to gain their support for the boycott.

### Gay-specific demands

Supporters of the boycott say the coalition between the two communities is logical because there are items on the bargaining table that are of interest specifically to gay men and lesbians. In addition, according to Ewing, Miller is the most popular brand of beer in gay bars even though it falls behind Budweiser in overall area consumption.

In recent weeks, contract negotiations have brought success on some of the union's gay-specific demands, a development some have attributed to pressure from

the gay and lesbian community. Burke management recently agreed to include sexual orientation in its nondiscrimination clause, a proposal that was not immediately accepted by the out-of-state firm hired by the company to negotiate on its behalf.

The firm, West Coast Industrial Relations, had originally said it would not agree to any nondiscrimination provision not mandated by statute. Apparently, they were later informed that Massachusetts law provides such protections and agreed to the provision at negotiations a week later.

Negotiations have also yielded an agreement by Burke to grant limited domestic partner benefits, which will probably include bereavement leave, although the specifics have yet to be worked out.

"I credit the gay and lesbian community in getting them to agree to that," Murphy said.

Rosemary White, a lesbian activist and longtime advisor to Local 122, agreed that the call for a boycott in the gay and lesbian community has had an effect. "Burke agreed to [domestic partner benefits] even though it is not legally mandated [to do so]," she said. "They are concerned about the reactions" of the gay and lesbian community.

### Jobs, health benefits at risk

Efforts by the Local to maintain their current level of job security and health insurance benefits have not come as easily, according to Murphy. Burke has proposed a plan to stop paying health insurance for employees when they are struck with catastrophic illnesses or injuries. In the case of a work-related injury, the insurance would cease after 30 days. Under the current Teamsters policy, which the Local is fighting to keep, workers have been able to retain health insurance for 18 months after leaving work due to a catastrophic illness.

In addition, Burke seeks to remove an employee from the seniority list one year after they become unable to work due to a non-work-related injury, and after 18 months if the cause is work-related. "Being

Continued on page 6



## Lesbo honchos meet with Bush campaign

WASHINGTON—Urvashi Vaid (pictured on left), executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), was one of several gay/lesbian movement leaders who met Feb. 13 with George Bush's re-election campaign chair, Robert Mosbacher (on right), to urge Bush to avoid gay-baiting and AIDS-baiting in the campaign and to support gay and lesbian rights issues.

Mosbacher's openly-lesbian daughter helped to secure the meeting for NGLTF.

The meeting drew the ire of Baptist and Evangelical leaders, including the president of the 14.6 million-member Southern Baptist Convention, the nation's largest Protestant group. "Having the highest-ranking member of your re-election campaign meet with the homo... lobby is a direct contradiction to your attempts to portray your administration as pro-family," Rev. Chapman wrote to Bush in a Feb. 19 letter. "We call upon you personally to disavow any support or sympathy for the homo... civil rights agenda," he wrote.

An NGLTF spokesperson said the meeting was the first of its kind between lesbian/gay movement leaders and the head of an incumbent Republican president's re-election drive. NGLTF reported that Mosbacher "was surprised" that only five states have anti-discrimination laws that protect gay men and lesbians.

"Mr. Mosbacher and staff were responsive but the proof is in the pudding. We hope our message is carried up to the President," said Jeffrey Levi, director of government affairs for the national AIDS Action Council, who also attended the meeting.

—John Zeh

## GCN JOBS

### Advertising Coordinator

**Available Immediately** Sell display and classified ads and develop strategies for increasing advertising revenues. Manage accounts, prepare ad sales materials. Work with Art Director on advertising design and placement.

**Qualifications:** Strong organizational, communications, record-keeping skills. Previous sales, marketing, and finance experience helpful. Familiarity with PC and/or MAC.

**GCN Positions** All GCN positions require commitments to lesbian/gay liberation, feminism, anti-racism, economic justice and collective decision-making.

**Salary/Benefits:** All positions pay \$230/week and include health insurance through Harvard Community Health Plan, dental allowance, sick leave, and four weeks paid vacation. GCN offers staff members responsibility for their own jobs, with flexibility and ample room for innovation.

Please send resume and cover letter to: GCN Job Search Committee, 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116.

### Call for Board Members

GCN will be holding Board elections in March, with seven places available. The GCN Board is involved in setting policy, financial management, organizational development and fundraising for the Bromfield Street Educational Foundation, publisher of Gay Community News. An effort is made to have socioeconomic, racial and cultural diversity and gender parity. The board meets once a month and many board members also serve on a GCN committee. This is a working board with ample opportunity to become involved in a national lesbian and gay newspaper which stresses feminism, anti-racist work and economic justice. All interested persons are encouraged to submit a letter of interest. For more information, call Laura Pierce at 426-4469.

## GCN GOES BI (for now)

Some of you may feel like you haven't seen a new issue of *GCN* in your mailbox, or at your favorite newsstand or bar for a while. That's because *GCN* has gone bi-weekly (publishing once every two weeks) temporarily to aid our restructuring and general fight for survival.

In the coming month, look for us bi-weekly (our next issue will come out March 20). We'll keep you posted, and soon you'll be seeing us back on our regular weekly schedule.

### Labels

Dear *GCN*:

After reading the letter sent in by Rebecca Ripley [regarding the ouster of a transsexual woman from a women-only event], I feel compelled to ask both Ms. Ripley and anyone else out there who may share her views on transsexuals a few questions.

First, why use a racial comparison within an argument of a non-racial issue? I feel that we as a community, and Ms. Ripley in particular, should carefully consider such things, as racial comparisons and labels in general have been used for ages to the advantage of the phobic to shift attention to a label instead of toward the humanity involved.

Secondly, why was Ms. Ripley strangely silent on the other facet of sexual reassignment, that of female-to-male? I, and I'm sure many of your readers, would be interested in what epithet she has reserved for them. I happened to check my copy of *The American Heritage Dictionary* and, from what I read, the woman victimized at the Michigan Woman's Music Festival was neither "A castrated male employed as a harem attendant or functionary in certain Oriental courts, or a man whose testes have not developed."

Again, a label, used erroneously, is being employed to draw attention from the human involved, this time a decent person courageous enough not to knuckle under to the irrational phobias of others.

It is both saddening and disheartening to see members of our community using the very same tactics and dogma we have fought so hard and so long against, and this time shamefully using them on one of our own.

As a community, we are ringed with those who wish us ill, the times are too desperate for such actions against our own people.

Sincerely,  
V. Maulsby  
Graterford, Pa.

### Not an attack on Fenway Clinic

Dear *GCN*:

This is an open letter to the gay community. I am a gay man and an artist in Boston. For the last three months I have been trying to have one of my paintings shown at the Fenway Community Health Center.

This particular painting depicts Cardinal Law, President Bush and Pope John Paul in the poses of "Hear No Evil, See No Evil, Speak No Evil." (The title of the painting is, "HEAR NO...SEE NO...SPEAK NO...THE INTERCOURSE OF CHURCH AND STATE"...'91.)

After more than two months of indecision and waiting for "committee meetings," the painting was brought by the Art Committee to the Fenway Community Health Center to have the staff "vote" on showing the painting.

At this point the director, Michael Savage, "nixed" showing the painting at all (no vote) because, "it may offend the larger contributors or upset the little old Catholic ladies."

What chance does the "Gay Community" have if we can't stand up for truth? The Fenway clinic deals with AIDS deaths every day, deaths brought about in part by the cooperation of the church and state in a conspiracy of silence and oppression. We should be very concerned with the fact that now "we" are enforcing our own censorship. "We" within our "Gay institutions" can be collaborators with the homophobes and the Jesse Helmses who would have us silenced and destroyed.

How many AIDS deaths and funding cuts will it take before the "Gay Community" will unite or at least support truth within its walls?

Ninety-nine percent of the "Art" in Fenway Community Health Center is "Safe Art." There are no real "Gay specific" paintings to be seen. Abstract art, silent houses on empty beaches. One "gay" piece of art seems to reinforce negative gay imagery with feathers and glitter and masks. Will bureaucratic homophobia flourish in the gay community? Will we continue to waste away quietly and politely so as not to "offend" our government? Our Church? Our oppressors?

It is difficult enough when censorship and defeat come from the oppressors of the gay community; but when "we" reinforce our own destructive, anti-gay beliefs, how can we ever hope to become self-respecting equal citizens? If the officials of our gay organizations cannot support gay pride or gay rights, then it is time to ask why or replace them with people who do and can.

For the record, I want to say that most of the staff and workers at Fenway Community Health Center were supportive and encouraging regardless of political or religious differences, and I thank those people and don't wish this letter to be an attack on Fenway Clinic. I only wish to confront censorship and coercion and oppression within my "support system." I refuse to continue participating in self annihilation by silence.

Since 1984, I have lost about 52 friends and loved ones to AIDS I write this letter to honor them and ask that we stop apologizing for ourselves and take our place in this society.

Silence equals death. Fight back.

Michael McConnell  
Boston, Mass.

### Feder hate

[GCN received a copy of this letter submitted to the Boston Herald by a coalition of Jewish community leaders in response to an article by columnist Don Feder called 'The Gays' Advance: Implacable, Deadly.']

To Boston Herald Editorial Department:

French philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre wrote, "It is enough that one man hate another for hate to gain little by little, all mankind." In the case of Don Feder's column of February 24 (The Gays Advance: Implacable, Deadly) it would appear that Sartre's message went unheeded. While this

wasn't the first time that Feder used the pages of the *Herald* for the promulgation of hatred and ignorance, never before have his ravings been so irresponsible. Free speech is not necessarily responsible speech, and hate is not an opinion, it is simply hate.

In his commentary, Feder compares today's homophobes (whom he disingenuously refers to as "family advocates") with heroic and outnumbered fighters of the French resistance, bravely opposing the Nazis. Doesn't Mr. Feder realize that these outflanked French heroes were fighting against the very same ideas that he espouses in his column? The terms Mr. Feder uses to describe and categorize the gay and lesbian community (perversion, the metaphysical negation of life...) could have come straight from Nazi propaganda leaflets. In a society already plagued with gay-bashing and other violent hate crimes against gay men and lesbians, Feder's venomous words can only feed the fear and ignorance, and fuel the flames of hate which are destroying our cities and creating an endless stream of innocent victims.

Mr. Feder asserts that "if homosexuality is legitimized, no perversion can logically be opposed." Could his actual fear be that bigotry, one of our society's most destructive perversions, might indeed be logically opposed? What Feder, and his ideological comrades Patrick Buchanan, David Duke and Leonard Jeffries seek, is nothing less than the legitimization of homophobia bigotry and hatred.

In 1989, Nobel Laureate and holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel addressed a gay audience in New York with these words: "Those who are bigots do not stop at classes, at races, or again at gays and lesbians. Those who hate you hate me. Those who hate, hate everybody. Those who wanted to isolate you in the past, and too often they succeeded, they are committing sins: sins against society; sins against humanity; and against creation as such."

As a coalition of Jewish religious, political and community leaders, we write heeding the lesson of the holocaust which Elie Wiesel so eloquently communicates to our people and all people: that in the face of hate-mongering and oppression, the silence of decent people is the greatest sin of all. We deeply regret that Don Feder is so consumed with hatred for our gay sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, parents, cousins, aunts and uncles, and we equally regret that the *Herald* chose to print his ugly diatribe; however, as a people of conscience, we cannot and will not let such dangerous words go unchallenged.

Rep. David Cohen, President, and  
Sheila Decter, Regional Director,  
American Jewish Congress  
Leonard Zakim, Executive Director,  
Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith  
Ellen Bettmann, Director,  
A World of Difference  
Lawrence Lowenthal, Executive Director,  
American Jewish Committee  
Rabbi Paul Menitoff, Regional Director,  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
Rabbi Samuel Chiel,  
Temple Emanuel, Newton  
Rabbi Bernard H. Mehlman,  
Rabbi Ronne Friedman, Rabbi Elaine  
Zecher, Temple Israel, Boston  
Leonard Fein

### Good for our culture and community

Dear *GCN*:

VICTORY!!!

We here at the Idaho State Prison, after a long and arduous battle that only barely stopped short of the courts, are now once again allowed to receive gay literature in the mail.

I really miss *GCN*. I share it with all who are interested. Thanks very much for your generosity and for all the good you are doing for our culture and community.

In gratitude,  
George F. Lewis  
Boise, Idaho

### Police bash gays and lesbians

Dear *GCN*:

Amidst the hoopla surrounding the release of the St. Clair Commission's report [the result of an external investigation of the Boston Police Department], the subsequent formation of a board to hear citizens' complaints and the appointment to that board of Harry Collings, an openly gay man with a long history of activism in the gay community, the fact remains: police bash gays and lesbians, and we citizens still have no power to hold them accountable.

## Gay Community News

Gay Community News is produced by a collective dedicated to providing coverage of events and news in the interest of gay and lesbian liberation. The collective consists of a paid staff of ten, a general membership of volunteers, and a board of directors elected by the membership.

Opinions reflected in "editorials" represent the views of the paid staff collective. Signed letters and columns represent the views and opinions of the authors only. We encourage all readers to send us comments, criticism, and information, and to volunteer and become members.

The GCN Collective in alphabetical order by primary title/function

\* Indicates member of paid staff collective

#### ART & PRODUCTION

**Art Director:** Adrianna Alty\*  
**Volunteers:** Linda Ready  
**Freelance:** Alison Bechdel, Noreen Stevens  
**Proofreaders:** Gordon Gottlieb, Rob Krikorian, Read Weaver

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phil Harper, Jim Klely, Ellie Margolis

#### BUSINESS MANAGER

Christopher MacDonald

#### CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT

**Coordinator:** Dawn Schmitz\*  
**Staff:** Patrick Cain, Raymond Hopkins, Ronn Jackson, William Newton, Warren Patterson, Whitt Pond, Jacob Smith Yang, Bill Sweet, Sandi Warren

#### COMPUTER COMMITTEE

Steve Dyer, Art Cohen

#### DEVELOPMENT

**Coordinator:** Laura Pierce

#### DISTRIBUTION

Boston area: Gloria's Trucking  
Bulk Distribution & Pizza Sustainer: Ray Hopkins

#### FEATURES DEPARTMENT

**Editor:** Christopher Wittke\*  
**Art & Listings Editor:** Adrianna Alty\*  
**Contributors:** Karl Aguilar-San Juan, Adrianna Alty, Walta Borawski, Michael Bronski, Cheryl Clarke, Susie Day, Carrie Dearborn, Kay Diaz, Jim Fauntleroy, Ayofemi Folayan, Caroline Foty, Liz Galst, Diane Hamer, Phil Harper, Essex Hemphill, Monica Hileman, Terri Jewett, John Kyper, Alisa Lebow, Mara Math, Duncan Mitchell, Marea Murray, Laura Pierce, Elizabeth Pincus, Steve Rose, Patricia A. Roth, Charley Shively, Tatiana Schrieber, Marc Stein, Donald Stone, Maida Tilchen, Trixi, Tim Walton

#### INDEXER

Charles Ash

#### NEWS DEPARTMENT

**Editor:** Carrie Wofford\*  
**Reporter:** Dawn Schmitz\*  
**Contributors:** Ed Boyce, Gunther Freehill, Mike Friedman, Judy Gerber, John Hubert, Stephen Hunt, John Kyper, Kendall Lovett, Chip Mitchell, David Morris, Steve Rose, Susan Schmitz, Deborah Schwartz, Jacob Smith Yang, John Zeh

#### PRISONER PROJECT

Bill Andriette, Diane Fagan, Brian Flynn, Rob Krikorian, Rebecca Lavine, Stephanie Poggi, Tiyo Attallah Salah-El, Tatiana Schrieber

#### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Adrianna Alty, Michael Bronski, Ellie Margolis, Jacob Smith Yang

#### PHOTOGRAPHERS

Susan Fleischmann, Marilyn Humphries, Debbie Rich, RINK, Ellen Shub, Laura Wulf

#### SUSTAINER COMMITTEE

Gordon Gottlieb, Shelley Malins, Stephanie Poggi, Nancy Wechsler

Bromfield Street Educational Foundation, Inc., all rights reserved. Reprint by permission only.

*Gay Community News* is published weekly (except for the last week of April, August and December), by the Bromfield Street Educational Foundation, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation. Our office is located at 62 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116. (617) 426-4469, FAX: (617) 426-2723, TTY/TDD: (617) 426-0332. Second-class postage paid at Boston, Mass. Annual subscription rate for individuals is \$39. Institutional rate: \$55. ISSN: [0147-0728].

Member Gay and Lesbian Press Association, New England Press Association, Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, COSMEP. *GCN* is included in the Alternative Press Index, published quarterly by the Alternative Press Center, Inc., Box 33109, Baltimore, MD 21218. Volumes 1-15 of *GCN* are available on microfilm for \$40/volume, \$550/complete set. Write GCN/Microfilm for more information.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: *Gay Community News*, 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116.

## Clean needles now

By Byron Rushing

*[The following testimony in support of clean I.V. needle distribution programs was delivered to the Joint Committee on Health Care.]*

The horrors of AIDS are well known. As of Feb. 1 of this year there were 4,753 reported cases of AIDS in the Commonwealth and over 202,000 cases reported nationally. I.V. drug users are the second highest group at risk for contracting AIDS and the percentage of cases are increasing. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, 72 percent of new cases have I.V. drug use as a primary or co-risk factor. In addition, I.V. drug users infected with HIV through the sharing of infectious equipment further transmit the virus to sexual partners and their infants. The CDC reports that 70 percent of AIDS cases involving women and 80 percent involving children are the direct or indirect consequences of needle-sharing. A hugely disproportionate number of these women and children are people of color.

I am a co-sponsor of An Act Relative to Certain Prescriptions, S.411, because it would allow anti-drug abuse and anti-AIDS agencies to establish clean needle distribution and needle exchange programs without forcing their staffs or volunteers to commit illegal acts—or more accurately—civil disobedience. Such programs are essential if we are to slow down the spread of the HIV virus for those men and women whose primary risk factor is I.V. drug use, and for those people exposed through sexual contact with infected I.V. users, and for children born to HIV-infected mothers. Legal clean needle availability reduces needle-sharing and therefore reduces the danger of transmission. And when combined with counseling and access, it can serve as a bridge to treatment.

There are needle exchange programs currently underway in New Haven, CT; Takoma, WA; Seattle, WA; Portland, OR; Boulder, CO; Hawaii; and Toronto, Canada. Last month, I had the opportunity to visit a distribution program in Manchester, England. Studies show that allowing the distribution of needles does not lead to increased drug use.

When given the choice between clean or dirty needles, addicts will take the clean needles—and use them only once. According to the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, the clean needle distribution programs are found to decrease the sharing of needles and thereby reduce the HIV positive rate. The program in New Haven has had 25 percent of its needle exchange participants enter into drug treatment programs since its

**Legal clean needle availability reduces needle sharing and therefore reduces the danger of transmission. And when combined with counseling and access, it can serve as a bridge to treatment.**

inception.

The National Commission on AIDS, in their 1991 report to the U.S. Congress, states, "Needle and syringe distribution programs deserve further experimentation, and laws and regulations that block implementation should be repealed." This is what S.411 would do.

In many localities where there has been political or community opposition and laws that make possession of drug injection equipment illegal, criminal justice officials have looked the other way. In other communities, public health officials and activists have successfully defended themselves arguing they are saving lives. To date, virtually all cases brought against people conducting needle exchange in Massachusetts have been dis-

missed or received an acquittal.

It is important that the Governor has taken the first step in proposing language to implement a Department of Public Health-managed pilot program for the distribution of needles. However, it is a far cry from a statewide comprehensive clean needle program available to all who request it. I urge the Committee to at least report out legislation that allows for all qualified agencies throughout the Commonwealth to implement pilot programs. As many cities and towns should be chosen by the Department of Public Health as request inclusion in this crucial program. Regulations should be written to allow a variety of clean needle and clean needle-exchange programs as long as there is a uniform standard of accreditation from the Department of Public Health.

Treatment on demand is a necessary long-term solution for those suffering from the disease of addiction. In order to absolutely reduce the number of I.V. users with the HIV virus, these human beings must stop using drugs. In order for that to occur, there must be available comprehensive substance abuse treatment. However, drug treatment programs are underfunded and overburdened by requests. The spending level of \$27.8 million from the FY'92 budget represents a 16 percent or \$5.2 million reduction from FY'91. According to the AIDS Action Committee, this has resulted in the loss of service to about 6,000 people in need of drug treatment. Waiting periods are now over six months long. On a national scale, according to the Congressional Office of Technological Assessment, 80 percent of drug users are not in treatment. If there were no threat of HIV infection, these statistics on drug treatment would still be unconscionable. There is concern by some about what signal clean needle programs send to the unaddicted—especially the young. May I suggest a positive signal it will send to the addicted: We know that addiction is a disease, we are concerned about you and we want you whole and independent again, and we know that treatment means nothing if you are dead. We want you alive.

## NGLTF's plan against bigotry

By Perl Jude Radecic

This year will certainly prove to be one of the most explosive years for lesbian and gay civil rights organizing. And if we capitalize on the opportunities and challenges 1992 holds, we could move our civil rights agenda far forward.

This is a year for electoral change, a time to make our voices count at the ballot box. A year to elect more openly gay and lesbian officials. A year to replace the bigots who vote with Jesse Helms and William Dannemeyer. A year to elect a president who will respond to our needs and concerns.

This is the year in which the U.S. government releases its first 12 months of hate crimes data, and begins the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This is the year Congress intervenes to force the U.S. military to rescind its homophobic policy.

This is the year for you to become involved and help our movement fight AIDS and homophobia, and increase our visibility.

The staff at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has developed a 10-point action plan to help guide our movement forward. It's a scheme to take advantage of opportunities when they arise, yet continue the long range planning and cultivation of other ideas and projects.

- Don't Let the Right "Take America Back." We must keep the NEA free of anti-gay censorship amendments and assist state and local arts advocates. We must counter Far Right organizing through grassroots coalitions, and support local gay groups facing civil rights repeal battles.

- Counter Hate Crimes. NGLTF will publish its annual report on anti-gay violence and victimization, sponsor an anti-violence roundtable at our Creating Change confer-

ence, and produce a hate crimes organizing manual for activists. The bashing must stop.

- Make gay and lesbian voices heard in the 1992 presidential elections. Gay and Lesbian Voters Organized in Coalition for the Elections (VOICE '92) will coordinate demonstrations, delegate caucuses, press conferences and other activities at and before the political conventions. NGLTF will also survey candidates, prepare backgrounder papers, testify at platform hearings and meet with campaign officials.

- Expand the Civil Rights of Lesbians and Gay Men and Our Families. We must have hearings and sign up sponsors for Congressional Resolution H.Res. 271 and S.Res. 236 urging President Bush to repeal the U.S. military's discriminatory policy. We must push the Cracker Barrel "family style" restaurant chain to stop firing gay employees and institute a non-discriminatory employment policy. We must demand our representatives cosponsor the Federal Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Act. NGLTF will defend the District of Columbia's domestic partnership ordinance on Capitol Hill and produce a gay/lesbian families organizing manual.

- Advocate for AIDS/Health Care. The U.S. government's response to AIDS continues to be characterized by indifference, stigmatizations, lack of leadership and the hugging of "AIDS babies." The Task Force will support legislative and government agency actions through the National Organizations Responding to AIDS Coalition, assist in the planning of the 1992 International AIDS Conference and help organize AIDS media activists.

- Put Out Fires and Respond to Crises. The Jeffrey Dahmer nightmare. Another gay bar drive-by shooting. Police beatings.

"Abnormal Behavior" laws. Gay Scouts booted out. "Governor Vetoes Bill" headlines. It seems every week brings a new set of calls for action. We must be flexible to respond.

- Attend 5th Annual Creating Change Conference. NGLTF's 1992 Creating Change Conference — the preeminent gathering of gay and lesbian activists — will be held in Los Angeles, Nov. 11-15. Make sure you're there.

- Organize Toward the 1993 March on Washington. We want one million gays, lesbians and bisexuals in the nation's capital in Washington, D.C., April 1993. NGLTF will assist in the organizing and planning for the event. Mark your calendars now.

- Remember Membership Equals Clout. Are you an active member of the movement? What are you waiting for? NGLTF and other groups are committed to expanding our membership bases and unleashing our membership resources to assist activist around the country.

- Build a More Diverse and Inclusive Movement. We will work with gay and lesbian students, people of color and other groups to increase media visibility, ensure greater involvement and promote different components of our community.

You can be part of our plan to move our agenda forward. Vote. Demonstrate. Write to your elected officials. Come to NGLTF's Annual Creating Change Conference. Join NGLTF and your local lesbian/gay or AIDS organization and fight the forces of prejudice. The year is ours for the taking.

*Perl Jude Radecic is the Deputy Director of Public Policy for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.*

There are a number of grim stories on the public record of police breaking ribs, bruising bodies, and terrorizing persons through humiliations and intimidation. Despite the interdepartmental shufflings and reshufflings that followed the St. Clair report, a person victimized today by police brutality would face essentially the same process of protest. You still have to go to the police, and depend entirely on their department to make an adequate investigation. The investigation—previously made at the district level, and often by the accused officer's friends—now is done out of headquarters. This is a notable improvement and gives us hope that real investigations may actually occur, ones where victims and witnesses actually are interviewed and records of complaints are kept with accuracy. Nevertheless, all investigations are still heard by a police officer who acts as hearing officer. All decisions are made by police. Citizens have no power in the process.

The *only* power held by the Community Appeals Board and the openly gay representative, Harry Collings, is the power to recommend on such cases as are appealed to it because the complainant was not satisfied with the outcome of the hearing. That is all. The Board can only recommend back to the police that they reconsider a decision already made by a police hearing officer about the fate of one of their own, buttressed of course by findings made in an investigation done entirely by the police.

It is possible that Commissioner Roache will give great weight to the Board's decisions. It is possible that real change will happen, that the bad boys in the department will be weeded out and that the majority of good women and men in blue will be able to win back the trust and respect of the city's residents. For this we wait, hopeful. But the fact is this outcome is far from assured. We are—both as isolated victims and as a community in fear of random police harassment—still wholly dependent on the discretion of the Commissioner and his staff.

In Harry Collings we have a very capable man who will undoubtedly speak out bravely for lesbians and gays, though the value of his appointment is still unclear. Its worth to us depends entirely on Roache's willingness to follow the Board's recommendations. We depend on Roache's courage to face down the Police Patrolman's Association and [Boston City Councilor] Dapper O'Neill, and to make our voices count, enforcing the justice entrusted to the findings of the Community Appeals Board.

A cynical reading might understand Collings' appointment and the events preceding it to be attempts at placating our vocal and organized constituency with token representation on an agency that is no more than a paper tiger. Indeed, this reading is not far off the mark: the new Community Appeals Board has no power to stop bashers who wear badges, or even to discipline them. The investigative and disciplinary processes that follow complaints remain internal to the police. It is no wonder a cynic would read City Hall's bravura as nothing more than high-powered hocus pocus. The police still have all the power and not much has really changed—yet.

So, in the final analysis, we are hopeful, but far from ecstatic about the new police department and the Community Appeals Board. The Anti-Violence Project will continue to advocate for a Board with the power to subpoena, and with the authority to make decisions independent from the police, free to make the hard decisions about the fate of complainants and officers.

For now we wait with guarded optimism. We in the gay community all hope this board will work out. Nevertheless, we must temper expectations with a patient, persistent resolve that waits to see justice is achieved for victims of police violence. We should all hold off from praising a body whose effectiveness has yet to be proven and Collings's appointment whose value has yet to be seen. We trust Mr. Collings will represent our interests well on the Board, but his good intentions without the backing of the administration are not enough to guarantee our safety. We trust that Mr. Roache will defend our community from the bigoted Patrolman's Association, but his valor without a Board that can discipline the bad boy cops is not enough to command our respect—yet. We wait, and watch for the results to vindicate the process; we wait anxiously for justice to be done.

Jarrett Barrios

Co-Chair, Greater Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance Anti-Violence Project  
Boston, Mass.

# Subscribe

*Turn to page 11  
and fill out the  
easy-to-use form*

## Presidential

Continued from page 3

two senators grades were their votes last year in favor of the Helms amendment to assign criminal penalties to health care workers who do not inform patients of their HIV status. Harkin indicated in the HRCF questionnaire that his vote for the amendment, which has since been killed, was a mistake.

### Clinton: No support for gay Arkansians

Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas is another example of a candidate whose campaign promises to the gay and lesbian community seem inconsistent with his previous political behavior. According to information compiled by the Lesbian Caucus of the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC), as recently as last year, Clinton denied requests from gay and lesbian activists in Arkansas to support a senate bill that would repeal the state's sodomy law.

Also last year, he ignored pleas from members of the lesbian and gay community to support the addition of sexual orientation to a new anti-discrimination bill in the legislature. He has also ignored repeated requests to issue a proclamation for National Coming Out Day, according to the NWPC Lesbian Caucus.

Yet Clinton's responses to the HRCF questionnaire indicate he would sign the Congressional Gay and Lesbian Rights Bill—if exceptions were made for religious institutions and affirmative action language were removed. In addition, he wrote that as president he would sign an executive order prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in federal employment, contracts and services, writing that such discrimination is "absolutely unacceptable to me."

Michael of ACT UP describes Clinton as "smooth" on the campaign trail, comparing his strategy to those of Harkin and Kerrey. While the two senators become flustered upon confronting members of ACT UP, Michael said, Clinton greets the activists by name. According to Michael, Clinton responded to angry AIDS activists, who interrupted an appearance in Sioux Falls, S.D. last month, by outlining a detailed five-point plan based upon recommendations in the October 1991 report of the National Commission on AIDS. Although Clinton's campaign staff has been in contact with ACT UP, members of the group say he does not discuss his views on the subject at public appearances until prodded by activists.

Clinton is credited by some with creating a domino effect among Democratic candidates by being the first to announce his intent to sign an executive order as president rescinding the Defense Department's anti-gay policy.

### A sincere Tsongas?

Paul Tsongas, a former U.S. senator from Massachusetts, is considered by most gay and lesbian activists to have the most sincere pro-gay and lesbian stance. In 1979, shortly after his election to the Senate, he introduced the Congressional Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Act—the same one Harkin and Kerrey now refuse to support—and successfully gained several co-sponsors. Further, Tsongas is arguably the only candidate who regularly states his pro-gay views to mainstream audiences. However, Tsongas has not held an elected office since 1984, so he has no voting record on issues such as AIDS funding and hate crimes.

Tsongas proudly wears the label of liberal on social issues, repeatedly demanding that Harkin and Kerrey co-sponsor pro-gay legislation if they intend to claim that label. In turn, Harkin criticizes Tsongas for his conservative, pro-business economic stands and his support for nuclear power. Such exchanges beg the question of which, if any, of the Democrats will capture the progressive gay and lesbian vote this primary season.

### Brown: Solid in Calif.

Like Tsongas, former California Gov. Jerry Brown's record is largely based upon his actions of several years ago. However, as Democratic Party State Chair from 1989 to 1991 he helped modify the delegate selection with an affirmative action policy that mandates a minimum number of gay and lesbian participants.

As governor in the late 1970s, Brown signed an executive order protecting state employees from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. In addition, he came out strongly against Proposition 6 in 1978, which would have prohibited school districts from hiring gay men and lesbians or any individuals supportive of gay people. He signed into law a repeal of California's sodomy laws and routinely made Gay Pride Day proclamations.

As a presidential candidate, Brown has publicly stated he favors the Congressional Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Act. Brown

was also the only candidate to mention AIDS in the first two national debates, when he advocated caring for the sick as well as increasing the federal research budget. Brown has not answered HRCF questionnaires, a situation which some have stated may be caused by his bare-bones campaign budget.

### Pro-gay is not enough

With such a large number of presidential candidates and a multitude of gay/lesbian, feminist and economic issues before the electorate, the tendency in the media—even the alternative press—to pre-digest the news is certain to become more prevalent. Graphs and charts attempting to portray candidates' views on gay and lesbian issues are likely to enable the candidates to say they support more than their records show, and are likely to exclude ostensibly "non-gay" issues important to gay men and lesbians on the political left.

Each of the five major Democratic candidates, for example, could be given a "thumbs up" for their stand on reproductive freedom—as they were in a recent HRCF newsletter—because they all say they believe abortion should be legal. However, as governor, Clinton supported parental notification laws as well as restrictions on public funding for abortions, and Kerrey does not co-sponsor the Freedom of Choice Act in Congress, according to the NWPC. Similar points could be made about such complicated issues as mandatory HIV testing, AIDS funding, freedom of expression and national health insurance.

—Filed from Boston

## Condom rap

Continued from page 1

worry about that right now. I just have to worry about getting well."

Brooks got into AIDS education first in 1988, through a class in radio production at local Berkeley college station KALX that led him to produce a 13-week show on AIDS and communities of color, called *The Color of AIDS*. "I was thrilled they allowed me to do it," Brooks remembered. "Here I was 30 years old and they were all college students and I wasn't in that mindset. But they were very supportive."

Nominated for the California Medical awards for Health Programming, the radio show featured AIDS education and prevention work in communities of color, including interviews with the Black Coalition on AIDS, California Prostitutes Education Project, La Clinica de la Raza and the Asian Health Project.

Brooks hopes the appeal of rap will make his AIDS education attractive to schools and youth groups that are instituting HIV education and prevention programs. But, his most important audience, he says, is other gay adults. One of his goals is to produce videos to be played in the bars.

"My concern is that while everyone is running around changing who gets the dollars this year [for HIV education and prevention work], we're not forgetting who originally needs the help. Gay men still need help. We need this, too."

Brooks is as thankful for the gig at the Leadership Conference as his audience was for the fun approach to safety. Brooks hopes the hard-core networking that went on after his workshop could lead to more jobs. □

## Miller boycott

Continued from page 3

on the list gives you job security," Murphy said, adding that being taken off the list is the equivalent of being fired.

"Some of these issues are issues that people in the gay community can relate to," White said, noting that a person with a catastrophic illness would include someone with AIDS. "I think when we get the issue about health insurance out there, people who are against the boycott are going to look pretty stupid."

### Drug testing

Burke management has also raised the issue of drug testing, originally proposing a mandatory drug-testing program for all workers that Murphy called "draconian." Although it has softened the proposal, Burke is still calling for much more than is necessary to provide safety, according to Murphy. The union does not oppose a reasonable drug testing program for drivers, he said, adding that the union wishes to comply with newly-instituted government regulations in the area. He said the union does oppose Burke's current proposal to submit all employees to drug testing based upon "probable suspicion."

Murphy and others have noted that the key issue in drug testing is the right to privacy, an issue that many gay men and lesbians are concerned with. "I have to give credit to the gay and lesbian community for putting pressure on the situation," in getting Burke to

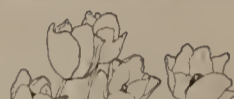
Continued on page 12

# Women-owned businesses

## CRONES' HARVEST

ART • BOOKS • CRAFTS • JOURNALS  
CLOTHING • JEWELRY • EVENTS

761 Centre Street  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
983-9530 tty-tdd



BOTANICA  
FLORIST

617 876-6993  
Cambridge, MA

LET BOTANICA BE YOUR  
PERSONAL FLORIST!

Contemporary & Traditional  
Floral Design

Free delivery in Boston area

Open 7 days a week

Flowers wired worldwide.

MC/VISA Accepted

Gay Owned & Operated

## VIDA K. BERKOWITZ ATTORNEY AT LAW

In practice since 1975

### General Practice

- Family Law
- Real Estate Transfers
- Consumer/Small Business

### Employment

- Discrimination
- Unemployment
- Worker's Comp

52 Western Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
(617) 876-7099



- NEW & USED BIKES
- EXCELLENT REPAIR SERVICE
- PARTS & ACCESSORIES
- TOOLS, WORKSPACE & INSTRUCTION
- AVAILABLE AT HOURLY RATES
- CALL FOR HOURS

351 BROADWAY • CAMBRIDGE • 868-3392

## LYNNE S. BRANDON, PH.D.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS • 617-391-8280

LONG RANGE PLANNING, STATE CONTRACTING,  
BUDGETING, STAFF TRAINING & SUPERVISION,  
CONVERSION TO COMPUTERIZED SYSTEMS

S & G

## SANDBERG & GONZALEZ

888 WASHINGTON ST.  
DEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02026  
(617) 461-0098

### LILLIAN GONZALEZ

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

# It's not over yet

Please, readers, keep your donations coming!

**If every paid subscriber sent \$15 today, we could make it!** Not everyone can afford this, but please consider a gift if you possibly can.

It's the only way to save our paper!

In conservative times such as these, we cannot afford to lose our voices for change!



## Sisters on screen

Julie Dash's *Daughters of the Dust* draws pictures that are ripe with meaning for African-Americans



Julie Dash

### **Daughters of the Dust.**

Written and directed by Julie Dash. With Adisa Anderson, Barbara-O, Cheryl Lynn Bruce, Cora Lee Day and others. Now playing at Samuel Goldwyn Pavillion and Baldwin Hills in Los Angeles; Village East in New York City; Key Theater in Washington, D.C.; Screening Room in Atlanta; and River Oaks Theater in Houston. Opens March 20 at the Coolidge Corner Theater in Brookline, Mass. (617/734-2500) and in many other cities in April.

### **Reviewed by Donna Allegra**

The blackboard in my elementary school was rarely washed. My early lessons in African-American history printed there were often smeared with white chalk markings from other subjects. There was no clarity as to where I came from as an African-American female. School didn't teach the truth of who I am in this world. It just showed the erasures.

Julie Dash's film, *Daughters of the Dust*, washes the blackboard clean. The pictures she draws are so ripe with meaning for African-Americans that the 5:00 and 7:30 showings were sold out in N.Y.C. on the day of the Superbowl. I had to wait in line for the 9:45. No problem there, some of the most gorgeous African-American women I've ever seen in life were waiting in those lines. These were women who don't ordinarily go to the movies because most films are so insulting.

*Daughters of the Dust* takes place on a Georgia sea island in 1902. The Peazant family has gathered together to be photographed, because the next day, they are leaving the Gullah Island with the expectation of a better life in the north.

The film traces the genesis of many of our current conflicts as African-Americans. Dash highlights us as a people in transition, a community coming to terms with our heritage as children of Africa and America. The dialogues of the Peazant women question what to psychically take with us on the next leg of our odyssey. We see the Peazants arguing, teaching, cooking, in courtship, giving attitude, in love. They are women pulling in different directions, all in the same family.

Most outstanding is the fact that *Daughters of the Dust* spotlights the physical beauty of Black women and children. The

Gullah people were direct descendants of Africans, isolated from the mainland. There was not much mixing with whites on their indigo and cotton plantations, so they retained much of West African traditions, ways of being, and appearance. *Daughters of the Dust* won the prize for Best Cinematography at the Sundance Festival. To say the cinematography is its best feature is not to say that the other elements of this magnificent work are tacky.

The storyline is complex and submerged, but the pattern sharply etched, the more so by the compelling images of the Peazant family. Dash's film text holds words of far-reaching truth and reverberating visual metaphor. An example that comes to mind is one of Haagar's daughters, Iona (played by Bahni Turpin), running off to marry a Native American; the couple rides away on horseback as the boat pulls away taking the Peazants to the North.

Dash's writing is lyrical and rich with nurturing wisdom. Nana Peazant (Cora Lee Day) is the voice of mother Africa. She tells her great grandson, Eli (Adisa Anderson), estranged from his wife—because she had been raped—that the wife, Eula (Alva Rogers), does not belong to him and never did. How gratifying to hear an African elder tell that to an African-American man. He spends his time in the film getting over himself. The narrative voice of the film is Eula's unborn child, whom he comes around to welcome.

Sometimes it is hard to follow the stories—a telling metaphor about our history—because they are not linear, but braided in with other tonalities of life: the women cooking, the young women at play, the photo-taking sessions. Like the strands of our hair, the texture of *Daughters of the Dust* is dense, tightly curled and interwoven in a style that is African, that doesn't conform to American structures.

Differing opinions are voiced by the Peazant women as to how we should proceed as a people. Viola (Cheryl Lynn Bruce) sees Jesus Christ as the savior to be crucial for the race. Haagar (Kaycee Moore), the fierce mother, believes in education and contemporary values as the road to betterment. Like Viola, she wants to reject all that is African.

Then there is Yellow Mary (Barbara-O), the lesbian come home with her high yellow lover. The lover, with sea green eyes, says

*Continued on page 9*

## A view from the audience

Missing pages from Black history



Blaine and 'Toine

### **By Kate Rushin**

Who are the most well-known Black gay men in America? I'd bet that if you asked the question at random in any mall or classroom in the country, the overwhelming response would be "Blaine and 'Toine." Blaine Edwards and Antoine Merriweather are the "Men On..." characters portrayed by presumably heterosexual Black men on the Fox Network's *In Living Color*, produced by Keenan Ivory Wayans. When I first saw "Men on Film" parodying Siskel and Ebert, I howled. I couldn't get over seeing Black gay characters on a Black show. The "attitude," the snaps, the wit, the timing made me think that someone on the show knew what the real deal was. As time passed and the jokes became more strained and the put-downs of women became more pointed, I became uneasy and lost interest.

When I heard the radio and TV promotions for the Fox Superbowl Halftime Party with *In Living Color* featuring "Men on Football," (we just love male bonding!), I was nonplussed. Here is a major network using characters of Black gay men to lure

viewers away from Superbowl Sunday, that national orgy of macho and consumerism. (The Superbowl broadcast has the highest ratings of any scheduled program on TV. Superbowl Sunday is also the day when the most cases of woman-battering are reported.)

I tuned in with more interest and excitement than I'm proud to admit. The writers and actors careened headlong into vile women-hating comments and stupid double entendres about blue balls and tight ends. Blaine and 'Toine outed, or appeared to out, a white male movie star and a world-class Black male athlete. Tacky, worse than tacky.

Marlon Riggs, the Black gay filmmaker of *Looking for Langston* fame, documents the history of stereotypes of Black people in American popular culture in his earlier film *Ethnic Notions*. He includes a detailed explanation of the evolution of minstrels (Black people in blackface imitating white people in blackface imitating a white man mimicking, according to Riggs's film, an old, poor, crippled Black man dancing.) I see the "Men

*Continued on page 9*

## Speaking of "The Garage Experience"

"We were all one big, crazy family full of diversity ... on Saturday night for 12 hours, we were equal."

### **By C. Gianni Tindall-Gomes**

It's almost always true that we don't appreciate something until it's lost, taken away or simply dies. Well, I was at a burial in New York City in September of 1987. The Paradise Garage was laid to rest. It was a weekend no one who was there will ever forget.

Most of you have probably never heard of Paradise Garage, probably because no one speaks of "The Garage Experience" anymore. It's like a story that was never read. But I'm going to read the book to you. First, we're going to put those old, faded Levis back on and reflect...

Picture it: New York City, 1982. Grace Jones being lowered onto the stage in a black Rolls Royce Silver Spur draped with 50 yards of chains and in a black leather Claude Montana suit. Her foot is hanging out the door on the driver's side while a black panther sits in the back seat, relaxing, as if "she" was serving all the drama, singing "Slave to the Rhythm." You had to be there to relate.

Even Studio 54 is still chattered about and harped upon, but the Garage is a withering memory of yesteryear. Granted, Studio 54 had glamour. But the Garage had velocity and glamour and ghetto all in one! No club will ever measure up to this theme.

Saturday night was the night when Latino, Asian, African-American, white people and all the other groups of the gay persuasion gathered for their weekly meeting. More than 3000 marathoners notoriously known as "Garage Goers" did their hugging, dancing,

laughing and kissing in beautiful harmony while their problems evaporated with the sweat that curled from their bodies. They did the Hustle and Vogued and did the Rock and the Freak. And at 4 a.m., when showtime was on, forget it! You were at the zenith of your life.

Although it was a New York City nightspot (that didn't serve alcohol), in actuality, it was a club for the world...a paradise. I once met a beautiful African lesbian and her lover, both of them were so friendly and warm. They told me they came all the way out here to come to the Garage. I assumed they came from New Jersey, or perhaps Long Island. But when they said they were from Birmingham, England, I gasped, truly. And then I detected the British accent, but before that, the accent meant nothing. As far as we, me and the 2999 other "Garage Goers" were concerned, we were all one big, crazy family full of diversity. For 12 hours on Saturday (the club was open from midnight till noon), we were equal. Status meant zero. The one who mopped the dance floor with his/her feet was king. I'm proud to say I had the pleasure of wearing the crown a few times.

But those wild and famous gay youngsters from Harlem and the Bronx known as The House of Xtravaganza always seemed to take charge: they would parade in with their old, faded Levis on, wearing black Ralph Lauren turtleneck shirts and 17-inch-high riding boots, stomping their feet military style as if going to war — all 62 of them! If it wasn't

*Continued on page 9*

# A TRIBUTE TO Craig Harris

Long-time writer and activist Craig G. Harris died of AIDS in New York on November 26 (see *GCN*, Vol. 19, No. 26). His was a familiar byline in the lesbian and gay press, having appeared in *Gay Community News*, *The Advocate*, *The Washington Blade* and many other publications. His fiction and poetry was featured in *Brother to Brother*, *In the Life* and other anthologies.

Craig is truly missed in the lesbian and gay community, as evidenced by the following tributes offered by friends and colleagues. Special thanks to Charles Tarver for his assistance on this tribute.

## “Truly wrong”

The first thing I want to mention is Craig’s sense of humor. Everyone who knew Craig was exposed to his totally unique world view. Craig would leave hilarious messages on my answering machine and our conversations were always dissolving into laughter, mostly mine. Craig was what I call “truly wrong”: irreverent, satirical and brilliant.

The same spirit that gave him strength to make fun of things as they are was also what made Craig so committed to activism. He understood that it was not enough just to name yourself as Black and Gay or even to write about it. You had to do something about it as well. He knew that we have to confront the injustice, the exclusion, the oppression that color every day of our lives if things are ever going to be different. He carried out that commitment to political and social change until the end.

There is so much else. It hurts to be writing this in a newspaper. I miss you. Thanks for being my brother.

Barbara Smith

## To Craig Harris

Well sir...no more late night phone calls full of laughter to get through your pain; no more Vassar handbook stories to swap, no more...in spite of missing you, I have nothing but joy in my heart every time I even attempt to cry or feel sad or any such nonsense.

My friend, these poems are for you...

## YOU PLAYED WITH BARBIE DOLLS, TOO?

Like her straw hair, pointy toes (that didn't stand)  
and gumdrop breasts I lived through her.

Like the dishcloths and scraps of material I  
saved to make her fabulous gowns.

Like the joy I felt when I felt both ashamed  
*and* overjoyed when that red velvet cape  
was on sale and I hid in the line.

(boy do I remember when I bought my condom or personals for mom)

Like the great fashion shows I had for  
*my new* Spring Collection

I remember when we shared the  
Barbie doll confession, it felt good, relieving,  
even joyful to finally find a co-fan.

## Craig Harris

From white cowboy boots to faux pearls  
You worked me!.....

From the poetry that I will hold true forever  
to your big understanding eyes  
You educated me!

From good scotch whiskey to late night discussions on everything  
You entertained me!

From missing and always having all of these memories and more  
You live with me!

Thanks Craig, I'll see you again!

## I AM YOUR BROTHER

I'm invisible

I'm very visible

From many bloodlines, tribes,  
cultures and languages  
color/drums

I was snatched from the familiar to the  
unfamiliar in the bottom of ships ...

I was there when the ships arrived

I'm enslaved, in crack, in dysfunction,  
in violence, in jail

I'm free, I have a higher calling, source  
strength, of being, of worth

I'm living with joy, happiness and hope, I'm dancing  
I'm dying, dying right now from AIDS, gun shot wounds,  
self hate, self pity, selfishness ...



I'm your trash man, your lawyer,  
your preacher, your healer, your enemy  
your lover, friend; I'm your brother

I'm strange yet familiar

I'm invisible  
and very visible

I am ... look around ... you ...

Charles B. Tarver IV  
©1992

## POET TO POET

(For Craig G. Harris)

If writing a poem  
Could bring you back  
I'd be the first one to type it

If snapping my fingers  
Worked like magic  
You would never disappear

But you are here  
In books  
In magazines  
In memories  
In our hearts

If writing a poem  
Can't bring you back  
Then it's the poems that are written  
That will make you stay.

Thomas Grimes  
©1991

## The Carried Torch

Your charismatic presence was a gift, the electric  
smile brightened hearts and lifted hope.  
But, now, we won't have your newer words to  
feed us, to taunt us, or to teach us.  
Your words empowered and boosted our spirits tenfold, we were blessed.  
You were about saving souls, making us take our own inventories.  
No one felt left out in having the volcanos of your  
thoughts to surround us.

The volume of your words will forever linger  
in our memories.

You offered tantalizing dosages of those juicy  
messages, our thirst  
was always quenched.

You rescued us from literacy illiteracy by establishing  
our own history.

A griot, we all sought refuge in the charting  
you undertook of this course. You wanted to go beyond  
preceding stories of gay black existence that isolated and  
hid behind its own fears.

You plunged into an active role, defying  
the deafening silence, becoming  
a champion spokesperson for the same disease that ceased  
your breathing; you were determined to fight to the  
end, "hope against hope"

You wanted to celebrate, stand tall and not let our  
Afrocentricities be muted into darkness.

You knocked on doors, gave hearts an added beat and propelled  
those who were lost in their own walking demise to surface and  
be counted...

Your voice conjured up our mission, tested our realities and at best made us quickly dismantle  
the delusional garbage.

Death does no justice to those like you who have been truthful  
to life.

However, we are willed the challenge to develop a balance;  
honor your life's work through your words, to the infinite  
degree, in our speaking and in our living...

Your words have been chiseled into hearts and souls, a torch illuminates our path,  
we'll carry it like you, gallantly.

philip robinson  
10 December 1991

# DLC

DAVID L. COLLINS C.L.U.

Insurance  
for all your needs

Congress St. Box 1762  
Boston, MA 02105

Orleans/Brewster Office Park  
East Orleans, MA 02643

1-800-339-2006

## HEALING SERVICE

FOR ALL AFFECTED BY AIDS

For persons with AIDS

For their family and friends

For those in the healing professions

For those who are afraid and angry

For those who wish it would go away

For all who seek God's healing power

Next Service:

March 10 • 7:30pm

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

335 Main Street • Brockton, MA

Co-Sponsored by Ecumenical  
Task Force on AIDS

For more information (617) 628-7665

\*ASL Interpreted

## View

Continued from page 7

On..." skits in the same tradition: a gay *Amos 'n' Andy* portrayed by "straight" Black men instead of "straight" and white men. Riggs shows, in a powerful, compelling way, the connections between the images of Black people in films, magazines, advertisements, etc., and the violence of white people toward them.

One argument in defense of *In Living Color* (and its older sibling *Saturday Night Live*) is that "everybody" is made fun of. I'll counter with the point that has been made repeatedly by many others in many ways in light of the scarcity of real, realistic, complex, serious images of Black gay men and Black lesbians in prime time mainstream media produced and controlled by us: the *In Living Color* caricatures are intolerable. At the end of last season, "Toine got hit on the head, knocked unconscious and woke up a homophobic homeboy. What is the message here and who is it intended for? The not-so-subtle implication that Black gay men can have "some sense knocked into their heads" is reprehensible.

What does it mean, what does it say that "Men On..." is one of the most popular segments on *In Living Color*? What does it mean that hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of women, men and children were whooping it up over Blaine and "Toine on Superbowl Sunday? What does "Men On Football" mean in light of the rise in gay and lesbian bashing and harassment both in prison and on the street? What does it mean in light of Magic Johnson's curiously insistent proclamations that yes, he is HIV positive, but no, he's not a homosexual? What does it mean in light of the number of gay men, lesbians and bisexuals in the entertainment industry, especially Black entertainers?

We should take the lead from the performance/theater group Pomo Afro Homos (Postmodern Afro-American Homosexuals) and use "Men On..." as a vehicle to speak about stereotypes, homophobia, gay and lesbian bashing and, most importantly, Black Gay and Lesbian History. If folks of all descriptions can incorporate "three snaps up" into their vernacular and buy and send "Men On Christmas" cards, they should be able to learn about our Black gay and Black lesbian historical figures: Mable Hampton, James Baldwin, Bayard Rustin, Alberta Hunter, Langston Hughes, Lorraine Hansberry...to name a few.



years, but despite the inroads in fashion advertising, the anorexic blond reigns supreme. But Dash does away with that. She uses African hairstyles as a recurring visual motif. Some coifs which look contemporary are, in fact, quite traditional. (And you know about Black women and our hair. One of the many ways we are told our looks aren't good enough is on account of our kinky hair. But did you know that a little swatch of hair was often the only material link a mother could tuck into her baby before it was snatched away to be sold?).

In case it's not clear, I loved this *Daughters of the Dust*. I want to say, especially to white Americans, "See, this is how Black women really are. We're not your ugly myths, your comic book visions, those nasty projections of your dirty fantasies."

I think it's safe to say that never before has a film given such an epic tribute to African-American women, depicting our concerns for family, community, race—a

responsibility we've always shouldered, unacknowledged. *Daughters of the Dust* shows African-American women amongst ourselves—playful, serious, hard-headed, loving, mistaken, open to question. To see Julie Dash's film is to wipe the chalky slate clean. The faces of these women were ones I could look to and see answers. I could trust this conversation among sisters who argue strongly and still sing harmony in one family choir.

## Garage

Continued from page 7

Carlos, Danny, Diorr, David, Jose or Angic from The House of Xtravaganza being fierce, then it was Paris Dupree from The House of Dupree or Dorian Cory who would present you with such flawlessness. Sometimes Ms. Pepper would jump up on one of many six-foot speakers and begin to Vogue, Harlem-style. You see, the African-American and Latin Gay "houses" were the root of the Garage personality. Everything we did back then, from "reading" each other to making love with one another, was simply off-the-cuff, sort of spur-of-the-moment. Something we can't do now.

The music was Disco, true Disco and House Music, real House Music, not that commercial House that radio stations are overwhelming us with currently. Touch, Marshall Jefferson, Sybil, Carolyn Harding, Blaze, Liz Torres, Loletta Holloway, Vicki Sue Robinson, Grace Jones, Jocelyn Brown, Gwen Guthrie, Alicia Myers and Diana Ross (to name a few), created a forceful musical communication that made gay nightlife in New York City, Boston, Philly and D.C. expand to the point where heterosexuals from all over would come to party with us simply because we knew how to have a good time.

From 1977 to 1987 at the Garage, Diana Ross's "Love Hangover" was played every Saturday morning at 9 a.m.. D.J. Larry Levans dominated the four turntables before him with such ease, it made the Paradise Garage the musical landmark that it was...and still is, in spirit.

For 10 years on every Sunday morning between 9:45 and noon, the McDonalds on W. 4th St. and 7th Ave. became a fashion show, sometimes a freak show. At times, all the gay houses would congregate, meticulously inspecting each other for blemishes, scars, or whatever they could come up with. If your fashion wasn't represented by Versace, Gaultier, Montana, Ellis, or Armani (to name a few), you were not considered fierce. However, if you knew how to serve the most flawless shade, you were in regardless of your fashions. Now, if you had the garments to go along with the shade, you were accepted as being "OVER!"

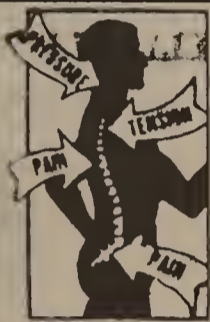
The Paradise Garage was where you lived your life for all that it was worth. It was where everyone felt if they danced together.

Continued on page 11

**ATI TRAVEL, INC.**  
Alternative Travel Itineraries

245 NEWBURY STREET  
BOSTON MA 02116  
(617) 536-2525

5 % direct donation to AAC  
Spanish, French, Portuguese & Mandarin Spoken



DR. JONATHAN D. STEIN  
CHIROPRACTOR

Treatment of: Neck and shoulder pain, Headaches, Low back pain, Bursitis, Acute and Chronic Musculoskeletal conditions resulting from occupational stress and nervous tension.

Evening and Saturday  
appointments available

232-7200

375 Harvard St., Brookline, MA



**Healthy teeth... they're a team effort**

- RICK BANKHEAD, DDS
- PAUL GROIPEN, DDS
- KIRK BANKHEAD, DDS

325-0101

1682 Centre Street  
West Roxbury, Bellvue T  
Holy Name Circle

Direct Insurance  
Billing

TDD: 364-2828

364-5500

1259 Hyde Park Ave.,  
Suite 108  
Hyde Park T Available

Kate Rushin is a poet and a member of the New Words Bookstore Collective in Cambridge, Mass.

## Dust

Continued from page 7

not a single word—no accident, that—yet has one of the film's most eloquent voices bespeaking her loving relationship with Yellow Mary. Yellow Mary comes home laughing at the island's primitiveness; she has seen the wider world, been slapped around by its controlling white hand, and yet found there the freedom to live out her love for another woman. They're both accepted into the family, despite Haagar's bitter homophobic voice.

Eula, the pregnant woman, is Yellow Mary's friend from childhood, who marries into the Peasant family. She and Yellow Mary are the more open hearts, questioning the past with the present, seeking an answer for the future. In these two women we see the most significant revelations.

On the eve of the family leaving the island, there is a moment when homage is paid to great grandmother, Nana. She can't yet bless the journey North, nor will some of the second generation of Peasant women embrace her offering.

Eula voices what African-American women need to grapple with for the next leg of our odyssey. It is the legacy America has put on us which we must slough off: the vision of ourselves as impure, dirty, ugly.

Eula and Yellow Mary, who've both been raped and scorned for it, are Nana's heirs apparent. They'll hold the traditional wisdom and tend to the earth, the dust we come from. It is to this dust that Nana wants to go when she dies, not to some white man's heaven.

*Daughters of the Dust*, 10 years in the making, is unlike anything I've ever seen before on film. It is more like a Toni Morrison novel, a play by Adrienne Kennedy, Audre Lorde's poetry, an Urban Bush Women dance-theater program, a Sweet Honey in the Rock concert—thick and rich like gumbo, so visually tactile you could just about feel its moist sea air.

All the women in the film are lovely to look upon. This is important to say. African-American women have been told all our lives that we are ugly. Maybe the words haven't been so explicit over the past 25



# OutWrite 92

## OUT/LOOK MAGAZINE AND GAY COMMUNITY NEWS INVITE YOU TO OUTWRITE '92 THE THIRD NATIONAL LESBIAN AND GAY WRITERS CONFERENCE

**FRIDAY MARCH 20-SUNDAY MARCH 22, 1992**  
Boston Park Plaza Hotel • 64 Arlington St., Boston, MA 02117

### CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- **OUT LOUD AND PROUD:** Lesbian and Gay Writers Read from Their Works, featuring Dorothy Allison, Assotto Saint, Pat Powell, Stephen MacCauley, Jacquelyn Park, Walta Borawski and others. Thursday, March 19, 7:30 PM, Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston, \$8.00 to benefit Gay Community News.
- **OPENING NIGHT PARTY,** Friday 6:00-7:30 PM, Georgian Room, Boston Park Plaza, sponsored by The Advocate magazine
- **OPENING PLENARY SESSION,** Friday 8:00 PM, Boston Park Plaza Castle, featuring Dorothy Allison and Mariana Romo-Carmona
- **OUT IS IN:** Performance and Dance Party to benefit Out/Look Magazine and Gay Community News, featuring Boston's own Adult Children of Heterosexuals!! Saturday, 9:00 PM
- **CLOSING PLENARY SESSION,** Sunday 1:30 PM, Imperial Ballroom, Boston Park Plaza, featuring Melvin Dixon and Allan Gurganus

### PLUS

- MORE THAN 50 WORKSHOPS AND PANEL SESSIONS
- FIVE WRITERS' WORKSHOPS
- "OUTSPOKEN" READERS SERIES, WITH 72 ESTABLISHED AND EMERGING WRITERS
- EXHIBIT HALL WITH 30 EXHIBITORS
- 2000 LESBIAN AND GAY WRITERS, READERS, BOOKSELLERS, PUBLISHERS, AGENTS, EDITORS AND CARTOONISTS

**ACT NOW TO TAKE  
ADVANTAGE OF EARLY  
BIRD REGISTRATION,  
EXTENDED TO MARCH 9!**

REGISTRATION TIL MARCH 9: \$40; \$50  
AFTER MARCH 9 AND AT THE DOOR

To Register: Send check or money order payable to: Out/Look, OutWrite 92, 540 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114-2512.  
Registration materials will be held in your name at the check-in desk. The Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers is wheelchair accessible.  
Interpretation for the hearing impaired will be available. For more information, call 617/695-0511.

**DON'T MISS OUTWRITE '92, THE LITERARY, CULTURAL, SOCIAL, POLITICAL EVENT OF THE YEAR!!!**

## BOYCOTT MILLER PRODUCTS

MILLER LITE • MILLER GENUINE DRAFT • MILLER HIGH LIFE • MEISTER BRAU • LOWENBRAU • MILWAUKEE'S BEST • SHARPS

**JOIN US IN OPPOSING THE TERMINATION OF INJURED OR DISABLED WORKERS (INCLUDING PEOPLE WITH AIDS), AND THE VIOLATION OF EMPLOYEE PRIVACY RIGHTS THROUGH DRUG TESTING**

Burke Distributing Corporation, the Boston-area distributor for Miller Beer products, won't agree to eliminate such proposals from the bargaining table in it's negotiations with Teamsters Local 122. The Union represents the drivers, warehousemen, mechanics and salesmen at Burke Distributing. We have joined the boycott of Miller beer products because of the tactics being used by Burke Distributing against Teamsters Local 122:

- Wanting to fire injured or disabled workers, which would include those employees with AIDS
- Wanting to violate privacy rights by giving drug tests to employees
- Increasing the risk of injury by proposing a decrease in the number of workers on a beer delivery truck

Thanks to the coalition between the Teamsters and the gay community, Burke Distributing has:

- Agreed not to discriminate against lesbians and gays
- Agreed to add the concept of domestic partnership into the Teamster contract

**LET'S KEEP THE PRESSURE ON. BOYCOTT MILLER BEER PRODUCTS. TO RECEIVE A BOYCOTT PETITION OR TO VOLUNTEER CALL 247-0251.**

Paid for by Teamsters Local 122, 650 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02215

*Arline Isaacson*

ARLINE ISAACSON  
Mass. Teachers Association  
Mass. Lesbian & Gay  
Political Caucus

*Tess Ewing*

TESS EWING  
Gay and Lesbian Labor  
Activist Network



DAVID SCONDRAS  
Boston City Councilor



GERRY STUDDS  
Congressman



ELAINE NOBLE  
Former State Rep.

Alliance of Mass. Asian  
Lesbians and Gay Men  
Barbara Boring  
Angela Bowen  
Stephen Brophy  
Jim Brown  
Harneen Chernow  
Hotel & Restaurant  
Workers Local 26  
Michael Cronin  
Ginny Cutting  
Gary Daffin  
Rosemary Dunn Dalton  
Kay Diaz  
Gary Dotterman  
Diane Frey  
Priscilla Golding

Pam Goldstein  
Cheryl Gooding  
Ann Herbst  
Don Holland  
Daniel J. Holmes  
Ed Hunt  
Will Hutchinson  
Sue Hyde  
John Ingemi  
Joe Kaplan  
Suzana King  
Mary Ann Kopydlowski  
Cyndi Koeber  
David LaFontaine  
Vickie Lew  
Diane Lewis

Sandy Lockard  
Janice Loux  
Peter Medoff  
Jenney Milner  
Susan Moir  
Karen O'Donnell  
Queer to the Left  
Pat Reeve  
Helena G. Rees  
Louise Rice  
Tatiana Scriber  
Jim Sullivan  
Gerry Thomas  
Celia Wcislo  
Karen Wheeler  
Rosemary White

# INDIGO

CAMBRIDGE, MA.

The best in live entertainment continues:

**Saturday, March 7th • 8pm**  
**N.Y. comic Judith Sloan**  
 w/opener guitarist Kathy Phipps •  
 only \$8.00 • Stay and Dance for free

ALL TICKETS  
ON SALE NOW

**Sunday, March 8th • 5pm-midnight**  
**International Women's Day celebration**  
 African Latino Asian Native American  
 ALANA Spectrum will be holding a  
 special event **Women & the Power Within**  
 • 5PM • Live entertainment, food, poetry,  
 craft sales and Tea Dance. Come and join  
 in the celebration only \$4.00.

**NO COVER on Thursdays**  
**NO COVER on Fridays & Saturdays 'til 10:30**

Thursday 4pm-2am, Friday 4pm-2am, Saturday 9pm-2am  
 823 Main Street, Cambridge, MA 617.497.7200

## The Law Offices of DAVID R. LUND & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

• DAVID R. LUND • BARBARA MACY  
 • THERESE A. YOUNG

Criminal Defense • Estate Planning/  
 Wills • Real Estate Transactions • Domestic  
 Relationships • Discrimination • Probate of Estates •  
 Driving Under the Influence • Business  
 Representation • Relationship Agreements • Civil  
 Litigation • General Practice of Law • Condo  
 Conversion

529 Newbury St. • Boston • (617) 266-0760

*...Since early  
 childhood people  
 have marveled at  
 your incredible  
 stuffing skills...  
 Let us put those skills  
 to good use. Seriously,  
 our Circulation dept.  
 has large volume  
 mailings to do each  
 and every week we  
 could really use your  
 help. Call Dawn 426-  
 4469*



## Garage

Continued from page 9

not just African-Americans but everyone as a family, perhaps they would save tomorrow. It was where people would put that 9 to 5 up on the shelf and just be themselves. There were no rules, it was all up to you. The Garage Experience was a passion that could not be contained. 84 King St. and Varick Ave. was where the Garage stood. If you walk by it now, you might sense the experience that you missed. If you actually experienced it, you know just what I'm talking about.

The poorest kid in the South Bronx knew about the Garage while the trendiest yuppie from Beacon Hill also knew. Yet, when they both arrived, neither one was treated any better than the other. The Paradise Garage was a place for people to be first rate versions of themselves instead of second rate versions of someone else. □

C. Gianni Tindall-Gomes is a Cape Verdean gay male living in California.

## OutWrite

Continued from backpage

have their own ideas of what they want to do and have to be strong-armed into following our ideas. During a six-hour meeting we discover simultaneously that we have too many panels, too few panels, no poetry panels and panels so idiosyncratic that we can't imagine who will show up for them. Halfway through the meeting Michele Karlsberg faxes a complete list—with addresses, phone numbers and placement times—of her reading series. We despair and consider letting Michele—obviously more strong-minded and competent than we are—take over all of the conference planning.

*February 2:* Have been on phone for eight hours a day for three days confirming and reconfirming panelists. My lover of 17 years threatens to leave. We compromise and unhook the phone for two hours.

*February 14:* We have all the keynote speakers in place, as well as all of the panels and most of the panelists. After a moment of rest, cancellations begin pouring in. Havoc begins again.

*February 23:* Spent morning answering the conference phone. Twenty-two callers want brochures. Eight disgruntled poets want to know why they haven't been placed on panels. Caller from San Francisco turns out to be man in leather from last year. I send him a brochure and tell him we can finish in a few weeks what we started last year in the hotel lobby.

*Postscript:* OutWrite '92 will take place, despite everything you've read above, on March 20, 21, 22. There will be more than 50 panels (including a sex writing workshop called "Let's Fuck/With Words") and 75 readers. Throughout the conference there will be a series of Public Conversations in which two noted authors will discuss their lives and work. Already scheduled for Public Conversations are Sarah Schulman and Larry Kramer talking about writing and AIDS activism; Melvin Dixon and John Preston talking about what it is like to be HIV positive and write about AIDS; Kate Clinton and Jewell Gomez discussing writing, sex, humor and vampires; and novelist Michael Cunningham and Pulitzer Prize winning poet Richard Howard discussing gay sensibility and literature.

It could not be confirmed at press time how many attendees will be dressed all in leather and/or willing to make out in the hotel lobby. □

## Conference

Continued from page 1

But others feel the Forum should do more to bring down the cost.

"The biggest problem for me was that it was so expensive," said Heather Fluelling, who led a workshop of bi-racial lesbians and gay men. "I know a lot of people were told there were too many volunteers until the last minute when it was too late for them to change their plans."

But Leadership Forum spokesperson Mark Simmons contended that everyone who requested to be part of the volunteer program this year was accepted. He acknowledged that one of the resolutions of the closing plenary was to improve the volunteer program and create more options for people unable to pay the full rate to attend.

Still, both conference-goers and organizers agreed the conference was a success and significant for the political and social affirmation it provided.

"We've received overwhelmingly positive feedback," said conference co-chair Jonathan Poullard. "People have told us they felt uplifted, empowered and ready to go out and

Continued on page 12

## Buying a used VW?

Complete Pre-purchase Evaluation

GOLF • JETTA  
 QUANTUM

**\$50**

**GT Shop Inc.**  
 (617) 923-0941  
 Formerly Coop Garage

We service  
 NISSAN • HONDA •  
 SAAB • TOYOTA  
 VW • VOLVO

106 Pleasant Street  
 Watertown Square  
 (617) 923-0941

## GENERAL DENTISTRY JOHN C. BARNA, DMD

581 Boylston Street 4th floor  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116  
 (617) 353-1500

## The Law Offices of David R. Lund & Associates, P.C.

• DAVID R. LUND  
 • BARBARA MACY  
 • THERESE A. YOUNG

Criminal Defense • Estate Planning/  
 Wills • Real Estate Transactions  
 Domestic Relationships  
 Discrimination • Probate of Estates  
 Driving Under the Influence • Business  
 Representation • Relationship  
 Agreements • Civil Litigation  
 General Practice of Law  
 Condo Conversion

529 Newbury Street  
 Boston, MA 02115  
 (617) 266-0760

## Come in and see our fine selection of 14K gold jewelry.

**JEWELRY SERVICES OF BOSTON**  
 Fine repairs and custom made jewelry.  
 "Rings sized while you wait"

333 Washington St. Rm 507 •  
 Boston, MA (617) 367-1550

VISA/MC • Layaway accepted  
 Hours: M-F 8-4:30, Th. 8-6, Sat. 9-4

PROFESSIONAL  
 HOUSE-CLEANING SERVICES  
 MALE OWNED AND OPERATED  
 "Where every job is expertly customized"

\*Meticulous and Thorough House-cleaning  
 \*Natural, Non-Toxic Cleaners  
 \*Gourmet Cooking Upon Request  
 \*Available 7:30 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

CONVENIENT • RELIABLE • AFFORDABLE

**(617) 784-1973**

## Quality Printing On Recycled Paper!

RED SUN PRESS is a worker-controlled union shop,  
 providing high quality printing and design services since 1974.

We specialize in printing on recycled paper.  
 Call us for a free paper sampler.

Share your work with a printer that shares your politics.

(617) 524-6822

94 GREEN STREET

BOSTON, MA 02130

# SUB SCR IBE

- ☐ 1 year (49 issues) \$39
- ☐ 1 year, Institutional \$55
- ☐ 2 year (98 issues) \$67
- ☐ 3 years (147 issues) \$95
- ☐ 6 months (25 issues) \$25
- ☐ 6 months, low income \$14

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

☐ New Subscription ☐ Renewal

☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard

Acct.#: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Charge Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I am interested in GCN's Sustainer Program (pledging \$120+/year)
- ☐ I am donating \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward a free sub for a lesbian or gay prisoner.

Payment: Check one:

- ☐ Enclosed is my check or money order to GCN for \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Please charge my subscription to my credit card (complete all credit information above)

Foreign subscriptions, add 50% payable with a postal money order. GCN's subscription rates are for within the U.S. APO & FPO. Amounts received in excess of the subscription price will be considered donations. GCN is published by the non-profit, tax-exempt Bromfield Street Educational Foundation.

## Miller boycott

Continued from page 6

back down from its original proposal, he said.

### Gay bars avoid boycott

According to Burke General Manager William G. Burke, there has been no decrease in sales of Miller to gay bars. However, there has been a "very limited" decrease in sales to bars catering largely to a working class clientele. Burke attributes this decrease to the boycott, which area labor organizations have been supporting since last year.

Some owners of gay bars confirm Burke's assertion that sales of Miller have not been affected. The owners of the gay men's bars Fritz and Luxor, both located in Boston's South End, told *GCN* that sales of Miller in their bars are holding steady. Billy Svetz, owner of Fritz, said that Miller sales may have increased slightly due to a "backlash" against the boycott.

Some bar owners criticize boycott organizers for promoting a boycott within the gay community that they perceive does not include any gay issues, and for not being informed of the boycott before it was promoted in the gay and lesbian community. "If there was an anti-gay valid issue, we would have supported it," Svetz said. "It's not a gay issue. It's a union issue.... It's a red herring, basically, it has nothing to do with gay rights."

Ewing agrees that bar owners should have been informed of the boycott sooner, although she said she didn't know if such communication would have made them more likely to support a boycott. "People have to be given a chance," she said. She emphasized, however, that GALLAN supports the boycott in part to forge stronger coalitions between the gay and lesbian community and labor. "If Burke was not particularly discriminating against gays but were still trying to bust the union, we would still support the boycott."

According to Murphy, West Coast Industrials is a notorious union-busting management firm which routinely hires scabs as soon as workers go on strike. "Obviously that's a big concern of ours," he said. "It's sort of hanging over our heads." William J. Burke countered this assertion. "West Coast only does what the employer wants them to do," he said. "We told them it was not our intent to bust the union."

Svetz and others have contended that Burke has been "supportive" of the gay and lesbian community in working with Miller to sponsor gay softball tournaments and other events. Svetz also said the company was very responsive to an anti-gay remark made by one of its drivers, removing the driver from the route.

### Earlier Miller boycott

In April, 1990, a national boycott of Miller beer and Marlboro cigarettes was called by ACT UP in response to contributions by Miller and Marlboro's parent company, Philip Morris Corporation, to Sen. Jesse Helms' (R-N.C.) re-election campaign. The boycott ended amid controversy in early 1991 after Philip Morris contributed to gay and lesbian and AIDS organizations.

The current Burke/Miller boycott, which is confined to the Boston area, has been promoted in the gay and lesbian community primarily through leafletting and advertisements in the gay and lesbian press. Members of GALLAN and Local 122 have been harshly criticized by bar owners for leafletting outside of several gay bars on Feb. 14. Some bar owners have charged the gay/union activists with partially blocking entrances to bars and intimidating customers.

Murphy denies the allegations, stating that leafletters were "absolutely, categorically" not blocking entrances to bars or asking people not to enter. The leaflets being handed out asked patrons to buy other products besides Miller, Murphy said. Responding to the anger felt by bar owners, he added, "We never intended it to limit their business. I'm very sorry they were upset. It was not directed at them."

Advertisements seeking support for the boycott have appeared in several local gay and lesbian papers. The ads feature an explanation of the issues as well as the names of several dozen local gay men and lesbians who support the boycott. Photos of elected officials as high as Gerry Studds, a U.S. Representative from Massachusetts, are included.

### Conservative gay papers oppose

Two local gay papers with wide distribution in gay bars ran editorials condemning the boycott late last month. One editorial, appearing in *Bay Windows*, contended that the boycott organizers were misrepresenting the issues in order to gain gay and lesbian support. Conceding that the issues involved were arguably "worthy of the union's

wrath," the editorial asked, "What connections do they have to gay community politics? Absolutely none."

The article concluded by labeling the members of Local 122 who leafletted Feb. 14 as "burly Teamsters" and chastising members of GALLAN, saying they "need their own lessons in justice" and calling upon readers to "give it to them by ignoring the boycott."

Ed Hunt, a member of GALLAN, criticized *Bay Windows* for calling upon readers to punish the group of gay and lesbian labor activists. "They have an unofficial policy of not quoting us. We were attacked without being given the opportunity to give our side of the story."

Rosie White said much of the criticism of the Local derives from anti-union sentiment. She said the accusations that leafletters were blocking doors and intimidating people "play into negative stereotypes about Teamsters."

White further countered Fritz owner Svetz's statement that there are strong anti-boycott feelings in the community, adding that more people have asked to have their names added to the advertisement, and no one has pulled their name. "Other than bar owners, I don't know who's against it," she said. □

## Conference

Continued from page 11

face another year."

### Weaving generations

The conference theme was "Weaving the Future," but much of the weekend's events centered around honoring the past. One of the conference favorites turned out to be a 92 year old Black lesbian, Ruth Ellis, who was attending a gay conference for the first time.

A number of speakers stressed the need for African American lesbians and gay men to maintain strong connections with their families, a theme that was also highlighted by conference organizers at last year's conference in Los Angeles. Ruth Waters, conference co-chair and a grandmother, made family central to her remarks at the opening session.

"One of the things that bothers me is that there is so much separation in families," said Waters. "A lot of that you put on your families and your communities. [You say], 'they don't want me' and many times you haven't given them a chance."

Keynote speaker Linda Villarosa, who is a senior editor at *Essence* magazine, was joined at the podium by her mother Clara to further the unofficial theme of family in their talk about the response to an article the two wrote for the Sept. 1991 issue. Entitled, "Coming Out," the article included personal narratives from mother and daughter about Linda's coming out process. It generated a flood of letters, most of which, the Villarosa's said, were thankful for their contribution.

"Being here represents a healing of sorts," said the younger Villarosa. "Writing the article meant being publicly out and just completely changed my life, and it was really beautiful."

One year ago, the Leadership Forum was on the verge of taking *Essence* magazine to court over its refusal to run an advertisement for the 1991 conference. *Essence* magazine's decision to run "Coming Out," said Villarosa, was in part motivated by the Leadership Forum's threat of a court battle which garnered considerable media attention.

"This was something that really showed the *Essence* people, by our speaking out and writing letters, that we are strong and that we are a force to be reckoned with and not to be messed with," said Linda Villarosa. "I'm extremely proud to be a part of that force that is the Black gay and lesbian community."

### AIDS Institute

This year's annual AIDS Institute was dedicated to the memory of three men who were key figures in the conference's short five-year history: Craig C. Harris (see obituary, *GCN* Vol. 19, No. 26 and page 8 of this issue), Martial Rio Givens and Kujichagulia.

The AIDS memorial was a moving service that included the display of quilt panels, oral tributes by loved ones to Harris, Givens and Kujichagulia and a sermon by Rev. Yvette Flunder of Oakland's Love Center church.

Overall, it was a weekend of hugs, kisses, tears and networking. Through the immense number of activities of the weekend, most conference-goers just seemed glad to be there.

"It was really good for me because it was kind of a family situation," said Akiba Tianaya, a lesbian from Oakland. "It was good to have something for Black people. I went because it was a Black thing. The best thing about it was that we were together." □

• SAN FRANCISCO • MANHATTAN • WASHINGTON, D.C. •  
 • VIRGIN ISLANDS • NEW ORLEANS • SOUTH NEW ENGLAND • SOUTH SPRINGS • PALM SPRINGS • SAN DIEGO • TORONTO •

*Gay & Lesbian*  
**FUN**®

**M A P S**

**the david james press, ltd**  
**mapping the gay world**

for information, please call 718-797-1009

• LOS ANGELES • TEXAS • MONTREAL • CHICAGO • VANCOUVER •



©NEN, Inc., 1991 \$1.95 min

**LIVE**

**ONE-TO-ONE**

**VOICEMAIL**

**PERSONALS TOO!**

**1-900**

**776-0069**

---



**ROMANCE CONNECTION**

**1-900-884-2288**

\$2 min

---



**HAVE SOME FUN!**

Personals  
Confessions  
Fantasies

**1-900-FUN-1990**

\$1.95 min

## PERSONALS

### GCN REPLY BOXES

Replies to GCN Boxes should be addressed to GCN Box#, Gay Community News, 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116. This applies to GCN Boxes only, not to P.O. Boxes. Mail may be addressed to GCN boxes for weeks after the issue in which it appears. Check carefully to be sure you have the correct box number!

### ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES

1-900-740-6600

Private mailboxes \$1.39 minute

I still do have a crush on you (sigh). I bet you think this is ad is about you, don't you... (38)

1992

...a brand new year (sigh). I'm young, single, *not* white and relatively free. What more could a progressive gay boy ask for? A little romance? A little fun? Write. GCN Box 144 (32)

GWM, small-boned, skinny, fem voice wants white, very fat, very tall. I like very hairy or smooth with acne, gas, tiredness, impotence, etc., etc. 9801 S. 157th Place, Gilbert, AZ 85234 (32)

### BORED?

I am. Winter's wearing on me and there's no relief in sight. Could you be my relief? I'm 26,

I'm a writer, I'm looking for a woman who's smart and funny with stories to tell. We could fool around, or not. (It doesn't make a difference to me unless you're really, really good.) Show me that there's a difference between being bored, and being boring. I'm starting to doubt it. Send me letters, send me flowers, send me reeling, send me... GCN Box 789 (40)

### WHITE, RICH AND FREE...

I'm *not* rich, *not* white, (not male either, in case you got this far) but I *do* have some free time now and then. Want me to spend some of it with you? GCN Box WRF (40)

Muscular, well-developed GWF. Looking for all sexual pleasures. Dominance and bondage o.k. Send most erotic photo and address. Let's warm up with words, then physical passion. E. Jones, P.O. Box 5307, Cortland, NY 13045. (30)

Gardner, I'm sorry that you think I only want your body. I want your mind too. I just didn't think you had enough of that left to spare. GCN Box 588 (32)

Meet interesting men and women in your area, for list of names and addresses, send location request and \$10.00 postal money order to: Charles Street 854769 P.O. Box 30, Pendleton, Indiana 46064. No cash or checks. (30)

GWM passive, devoted, blue eyes, slim stature and very pretty. Seeking serious and masculine man to dedicate myself to and live for. While I'm temporarily incarcerated, I'm looking ahead to a life of serious romance, love and good times. I'm well educated, love poetry, (reading and writing) erotic art and sexual creativity. "Imagine passion as sly as a lover's hand." GCN Box ZX12. (30)

I'm too sexy for this ad. GCN Box 789 (32)

**ARE YOU TOO SEXY FOR THESE ADS?** Why not write your own and prove it? \$10 buys you 10 weeks to see if anyone else thinks so. For a limited time, your personal can appear five times (ten weeks) for only \$10. See form on this page for details.

GWM, brn hair, 150lbs., aqua eyes, 20 yrs. Seeking correspondence and romance with older gentleman 35 and above who appreciates physical beauty, honesty and devotion. Am highly sexual, passive artist. Am in youthful offender facility for marijuana possession, out soon. Looking for a fresh start with lovable guy. Photos exchanged. GCN Box W963. (30)

Are you done yet, Liza?

I'm a man, I'm a one night stand, I'm a slut. GCN Box358. (32)

### COME

Thalia Zedeck, you are so cool. Spike. (You don't know me. I am a boy.) (32)

C.C., Your nekkid men photos really cheered me "up." Now I have a totally different kind of fever! Luv ya! (32)

## WANTED

### FISHER PRICE PIXEL CAMERAS

Do you have one? Has the novelty worn off? I hope so because I really need one. Write to GCN Box Pix, name your price. (38)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### RESPONDENTS NEEDED:

for a study on attractiveness and sexual appeal across the life span. Questionnaires are available from: Esther Rothblum, Ph.D., Dept. of Psychology, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt. 05405. (32)

**MALE SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE** Therapy group for men who were sexually abused in childhood, begins in March and lasts 12 weeks. Call New Directions for Men, (617) 498-9881 (30)

**GAY, LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL YOUTH** For a list of newsletters, pen pal programs, talk-lines, and other resources, send a self-addressed stamped envelope along with a note requesting the National Resources List to the Youth Outreach Program, 1213 N. Highland Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038. This list is available free to anyone 23 or under.

**BE HEARD!** Tired of rude service? Shoddy merchandise? Make your complaints count! Free details: Consumer's Advocate, P.O. Box 815, Port Hueneme, CA 93044-0815. (32)

## HELP WANTED

See page 4 for exciting job opportunities at GCN.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, a nonprofit community service organization with a \$500,000 budget serving the needs of lesbians, gay men and people with HIV/AIDS, is seeking and Executive Dir. The Executive Dir. will be responsible for fiscal management and planning, personnel and staff development, fundraising campaigns, community relations, and media contacts. Opportunity exists to develop innovative new programs. Minimum Qualifications: Two years in a management position and paid or unpaid experience with nonprofits. AIDS-related knowledge absolutely necessary. Outstanding verbal and written abilities. Negotiation skills desirable. Salary commensurate with abilities and experience. Please submit cover letter, resume, and work and salary history by March 30, 1992 to: Executive Director Search Committee, GLRC Board of Directors, 126 E. Haley St., Suite A-17, Santa Barbara, CA 93101. An Equal Opportunity Employer. (32)

Wanted: Organizer for group addressing funding of lesbian and gay organizations. Knowledge of gay community, foundations; self-starter; excellent writer. Consultant's fee, 2dy/wk. Send resume by 3/16: WGFLGI, c/o Astrea, 666 Broadway, NYC 10012. No calls. (30)

**WEAVE**, an economic self-sufficiency project for homeless women, helps women transition from welfare to the working world. Education is the bridge. We need a creative and compassionate teacher to lead our multi-level GED class. Please leave message. (30)

**BUSINESS MANAGER/SALES COORD.** wanted for established gay newspaper in CT. Will be responsible for developing business strategy for future growth. Must be creative, professional, aggressive. Service established advertisers and pursue new ones. Coordinate promotions and cover some club and arts events. Be a part of an exciting new direction for well-respected publication. Base salary plus excellent commissions. Must be willing to relocate to CT. Contact: William Mann, Metroline, 495 Farmington Avenue, Hartford CT 06105. (30)

**EARN EXTRA INCOME** Earn \$200-\$500 weekly mailing travel brochures. For information send a stamped addressed envelope to Galaxy Travel, Inc. P.O. Box 13106,

Silver Springs, MD 20911-3106

(38)

## VOLUNTEERS

### GCN NEEDS YOUR HELP.

GCN began as a volunteer run organization, and we still depend heavily on volunteers. In fact, our survival now depends on more people-power! To find out how you can get involved, call 426-4469 and ask for a volunteer information package. This will give you a better sense of how our office works and the type of help we need. Below are some critical ways to get involved right away.

### PLAN A BENEFIT

Enter the thrilling world of events planning. Gain valuable experience while mobilizing the community to support GCN.

## FOR SALE

**"TAKE A STAND FOR SEXUAL LIBERATION! SUPPORT GAY RIGHTS!"** t-shirts w/pink triangle underneath (S-XL) \$12.00, 2 for \$20.00. Freedom Alliance, P.O. Box 240915, Apple Valley, MN 55124. (30)

**BRAINTREE-"MINT COND." \$147,000.00** Colonial-completely remodeled. 7 large rooms, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 new baths. Gunite pool, small professionally landscaped lot. Low taxes, near T and Expressway. Owner: (617) 843-3407. (32)

## SERVICES

### WELL HUNG:

Meet other guys like yourself for hot pumping safe fun, or big banger, low hanger romance. Call now: (617) 848-0027. R.M.C. (32)

## MESSAGE

### YOUNG BLACK MASSEUR

In Beacon Hill for complete full body Swedish massage you will never forget. \$60, call for apt. (617) 367-9107. (34)

## APARTMENTS

### DORCHESTER LOWER MILLS

Milton line, walk to T. Charming spacious duplex in historic 2-family. Excellent condition many features: hw floors, refrigerator, w/d hookup, 1 1/2 baths, parking. \$750+ util. 740-1029 (34)

### DORCHESTER LOWER MILLS

Milton line, walk to T. 5 room apt. in charming antique 2-family. Refrigerator, w/d hookup. \$650 + util. 740-1029. (34)

2 bedrooms, 6 room apt. near T, hardwood floors, modern kitchen, high ceiling, safe neighborhood. Please leave message at 894-2406. (30)

## ROOMMATES

### SOMERVILLE HOUSE

2 Ls seeks third for house on Mountain Ave. in Somerville. Sunny, spacious, great deal. \$250 + util. Avail May 1st. Call Linda 628-1868. (40)

### JP - 3 MIN. TO ARBORETUM

LF 41 seeks friendly, independent roommate for sunny JP apt. 3rd floor, porch, wash mach. Sorry, no pets. \$275+. Open to temporary housemate or part-time arrangement for out-of-town commuter. \$22-2240. (32)

3LF seek nonsmk F for sunny rm in lovely apt. in JP W/D. dishwshr. Near bus, T, Aboretum. \$290 includes all. 522-6266. (32)

### TEELE SQUARE, SOMERVILLE

3 lesbians seeks 4th womanist/feminist to share the fun and frustration of creating a home community. Avail Feb. \$275+. 628-7604 (32)

### ARLINGTON

LF & F seek F with sense of humor for large sunny apt., w/d, porches, fireplace, pkg., near T. Quiet, no smoke, min. drugs/alc. \$310+. 648-4107, 648-8245 (30)

### EAST ARLINGTON—WALK TO T

2 lesbians plus cat seek lesbian 25+ to share our home. Good communication, sense of humor, open to racial diversity. No smoke, drugs, minimum alcohol. Beautiful, spacious apartment. \$340+, 643-2426. (30)

### WEST OF BOSTON

LF + dog seeks m/F to share home in country setting. 25 min. to Boston. Lg. yard, deck, pkg., W/D, DW, fireplace, mod. kitchen. 2 private rooms + bath. No smokers. \$450+. Call (508) 655-2623. (30)

### SOMERVILLE

March 1st or earlier, 3rd sought by 2 plus cat, 3rd flr. Quaintly beautiful large apt., 100 years old. Wood floors, laundry, clawfoot tub, big porch. Btwn Davis and Union Squares. Quick bus to Davis, Kendall, Lechemere and other T. Clean but relaxed. Good neighborhood, easy parking. We smoke. \$325+. Rachel, Chris or Jenny 776-2811.

### 3 LF, LARGE HOUSE, JP, SK 4TH

Independent, cooperative household with a sense of humor, a cat, low rent, near Ts and progressive

## GAY COMMUNITY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

# 10 for 10

IF YOU PLACE A PERSONAL IN GCN BETWEEN NOW AND MAY 1ST, PAY JUST \$10 AND YOUR AD WILL APPEAR EVERY OTHER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS. \*

### HEADLINE (optional)

### BOLD

max. 30 characters

### FLAMER

max. 20 characters

### COPY

### BASIC COST

☐ \*Special offer: 10 for 10 Personals  
\$10 for 1st 25 words; .50¢ for each add'l word  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ per ad for 5 runs (10 weeks) \$\_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Flamer \$3.50 ☐ Bold \$2.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_  
(one time cost for 10 for 10 personals 5 runs (10 weeks))

☐ Business:  
\$10 for 1st 25 words; .50¢ for each add'l word  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ per ad x \_\_\_\_\_ (number of runs) \$\_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Non-Business:  
\$7 for 1st 25 words; 25¢ for each add'l word  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ per ad x \_\_\_\_\_ (number of runs) \$\_\_\_\_\_

### HEADLINES

☐ Flamer \$3.50 x \_\_\_\_\_ (number of runs) \$\_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Bold \$2.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ (number of runs) \$\_\_\_\_\_

### DISCOUNTS

20-30 Consecutive weeks. Deduct 15% \$\_\_\_\_\_  
31+ Consecutive weeks. Deduct 20% \$\_\_\_\_\_

### BOX SERVICE

☐ Pick-up box. \$4 for 6 weeks \$\_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Forwarding box. \$7 for six weeks \$\_\_\_\_\_

### BOXED DISPLAY CLASSIFIEDS

☐ \$20 per column inch, \_\_\_\_\_ inches x 20 \$\_\_\_\_\_

### TOTAL

\$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for Classifieds is Friday at 3 p.m. for the next Friday's edition. All ads must be prepaid. All display ads must be camera ready unless alternative plans have been made. No ads accepted over the telephone. Please clip and return this ad form with payment to GCN Classifieds, 62 Berkley St., Boston, MA, 02116. Visa/MasterCard accepted.

### CATEGORY

- ☐ PERSONALS
- ☐ ANNOUNCEMENTS
- ☐ HELP WANTED
- ☐ HOUSING WANTED
- ☐ ROOMMATE WANTED
- ☐ VOLUNTEERS
- ☐ APARTMENTS
- ☐ VACATIONS
- ☐ MESSAGE
- ☐ FOR SALE
- ☐ PUBLICATIONS
- ☐ ORGANIZATIONS
- ☐ SERVICES
- ☐ MOVERS
- ☐ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

## Try GCN's Guaranteed Roommate Ad

All roommate and housemate ads that are prepaid for two weeks will run until you find a roommate.

Ads are *not* automatically renewed. You must call in every additional week you want the ad to run. Phone calls for renewals will be accepted on Fridays until 3 pm. 426-4469.

politics seek LF, 27+, non-smoker, minimal alcohol, experience with group living. Available 3/1, 522-7572. (29)

### PORTER-DAVIS SQ

2 LF seek F for friendly independent household, nice big apartment, W/D, driveway. No smoke, \$330+, 643-5903. (27)

### HARVARD SQUARE AREA

LF seeks 25+ LF, Bi or SF to share 2 bedroom apt. 5 min from Harvard Square. W/D and fireplace. No smoking. \$337.50 utilities included. Call 864-6609

Professional gay male seeks same to share 2BR in Jamaica Plain. Fully equipped, large, all oak, eat-in kitchen, pantry, W/D, porch, yard, ceiling fans, new windows, fresh paint, refinished wood floors, one block from orange line. No pets, drugs, partiers. Available 2/1. 731-2205. NO FEE. (27)

### FEMALE HOUSEMATE

#### DAVIS SQ (NEAR RED LINE/TUFTS)

Three women (womanist, of varied ages and sexual orientations) seek woman for our sunny, spacious, two floor apartment. Friendly, independent, quiet, homey. Next too laundromat, stores, park. Chem-free. \$300+ utilities, 2 phones, 666-2851, 628-7687. (27)

### FRIENDLY HOME-SOMERVILLE

2LFs and dogs seek 1LF to share house in Davis Sq. Yard, walk to T. Short- or long-term. No smoke/drugs, minimum alcohol. \$350+. 776-6612. (27)

### BIG HOUSE

2 LF's seek 3rd for 3 flr rent controlled house in Cambridgeport. Parking, yard, near T. Bdrm and study for \$286/mo. 661-6771 eves. (hrs)

### LOVELY CONVENIENT SPLIT RANCH

3LF and 2 cats (no more please) seek fourth. Suburb, 5 min. to Tufts, 10 to Davis Sq. and Cambridge, near Rt. 93. Lovely 2 1/2 bath home, huge yard, gardens, patio, all amenities, fireplace, storage, parking, separate phone line. Non smoker, 30+ desired. \$330+, security. Available immediately. 721-2326.

### HOME NEAR WORCESTER

seeking L for 4-bedroom home in Shrewsbury. Available immediately. Parking, washer/dryer, cable. Independent household, \$275/month, plus utilities. Leave message. (508) 842-1020. (ind)

### QUIET COUNTRY RURAL LIVING.

SLF craftsperson seeks roommate, to occupy furnished room, shared kitchen/bath and washer/dryer. Vegetarian preferred, no smoking, no drugs, pets negotiable. 55 minutes north of Boston. 15 minutes to commuter rail. (603) 432-1081. Anytime. (28)

### TEELE SQUARE, SOMERVILLE

3 lesbians seek 4th womanist/feminist to share the fun and frustration of creating a home community. Feb. \$275+ 628-7604 (28)

### MAKING A HOME IN EAST ARLINGTON

1 friendly considerate LF seeks 1-2 LF's for really nice, spacious 3-bedroom. Convenient to T. Off street parking. Wood floors, sunny, porches, yard, basement laundry. Own phone line(s). Petless, smokeless. \$385+util. Call 648-0970. (30)

### MEDFORD

Lesbian looking for housemate for large 2-BR apartment. Near Tufts, T, laundry, dogs okay. \$350 plus util. Loren 391-1084. (32)

### NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Seeking woman to share townhouse Exit 8. Sunny, large bedroom/closet, washer/dryer fireplace, dishwasher, some storage. Friendly independent environment. No smoking. \$290+utilities. (603) 886-9445. (32)

### ON STREET W/DIVERSITY

GM 40 seeking non-smoker in large sunny flat on 2nd floor. Washer/dryer \$400 includes util. 524-0095 Near T. (32)

Wakefield 3 bed 2 bath contemporary DW, W&D, cable, parking. Near 128 & 93. \$400.00 mo. includes utilities. Dennis 246-1905. (32)

### NORTH CAMBRIDGE

LF seeks F for beautiful, very sunny 2 BR. Friendly, quiet, no smoke, min. drugs/alc. Hrdwd floors, porches, deck. large yard. \$375+, poss. negotiable. 661-8957 (28)

### BROOKLINE VILLAGE

2 L seek L 27+ for 7 room apt. ample space, light, airy, w/d work flr, 5 min to T or stores. \$333

includes heat/hw/gas, prkg. 12 steppers, recyclers welcome. No smoke or fur, call 734-3536 (28)

2ND AND 3RD FLOOR IN E. ARLINGTON  
2LFs seek 3rd for spacious, sunny 3BR. Yard, porches, laundry, off-street parking, own phone line. No smk/pets. \$400+ util. Call 648-0970 or 648-1724.

## MOVERS

### GAY MOVER 641-1234

(v.20+)

### POOR PEOPLES MOVERS

Complete moving service. 7 days a week. New and used boxes. Inside heated storage lockers. Truck and equipment rentals. We load/unload your truck. 522-0826

## PUBLICATIONS

### OFF OUR BACKS

Lively, down-to-earth feminism in the nation's oldest women's newsjournal. Analysis, reviews, conference coverage, and news on health, feminist theory, reproductive rights, civil rights and political work among working, disabled, incarcerated, old and poor women, women of color, lesbians and women from every continent \$15/11 issues

### THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY

That's what you get inside every issue of *IN THESE TIMES*. We've built our reputation on addressing the issues the mainstream media ignores, and that's why our unique point of view has been trusted by thousands of readers for fifteen years. Experience the very best in alternative American journalism by ordering a sample copy today. Write: *IN THESE TIMES*, 2040 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60647 or subscribe toll free from anywhere in the U.S.: (800) 435-0715. GIVE US A TRY. WE'LL GIVE YOU THE VIEW FROM THE OTHER SIDE.

## FREE PRODUCTS

1001 Free books and samples of all types of products delivered right to your front door. Hundreds of dollars of "FREE" give aways from Brand name companies- soaps- shampoos- colognes- color film- vitamins- books- tapes- travel advice- recipes- and much more! A world of "freebies." big 64 pg. book describing hundreds of items, and books that are FREE for the asking. Send \$5 check or money order to: Awareness PublicationsCo., Dept. GCN, 398 Charter Oak Dr. SW, Atlanta, Ga. 30331.



## GAYELLOW PAGES

since 1973

Accommodations, AIDS/HIV resources, bars, bookstores, various businesses, health care, legal services, organizations, publications, religious groups, switchboards, therapists, travel agents, & much more, for gay women and men.

All prices below INCLUDE FIRST CLASS POSTAGE to USA, Canada & Mexico, in sealed, discreet envelopes. Mailing lists are strictly confidential.

Orders from outside USA (including Canada & Mexico) payment must be in US Funds payable on a US bank, or by Post Office or American Express money order. (We suggest you try a local bookstore first, to avoid possible Customs problems!)

US/CANADA. Canada and USA for women & men. City by city information for all US States, Canadian Provinces, and the US Virgin Islands, plus nationwide resources including headquarters of national organizations and caucuses; publications; mail order companies, etc. \$12.00; outside N. America \$17 (airmail) NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY, NY & NJ, separate Women's Section, Manhattan bar notes by Jerry Fitzpatrick. \$5.00; outside N. America \$8 (airmail)

SOUTHERN/Southern Midwest. 64 pages. AL, AZ, AR, FL, GA, KS, KY, LA, MS, MO, NM, NC, OK, PR, SC, TN, TX, US Virgin Islands. VA. \$5.00; outside N. America \$8 (airmail) NORTHEAST. CT, DE, DC, ME, MA, NH, OH, PA, RI, VT, WV. \$5.00; outside N. America \$8 (airmail) RENAISSANCE HOUSE, BOX 292-GCN VILLAGE STATION, NEW YORK, NY 10014-0292 (212) 674-0120

### WOMEN'S REVIEW OF BOOKS

monthly review of current feminist writing. Since 1983. Our readers span the U.S., Canada, and abroad. Subscriptions: \$15/U.S., \$18/Canada, \$25/institutions. Free sample on request. THE WOMEN'S REVIEW, Wellesley Women's Research Center, Wellesley, MA 02181.(ex)

## LESBIAN CONTRADICTION

A Journal of Irreverent Feminism. Quarterly of commentary, analysis, reviews, cartoons & humor by and for women who agree to disagree-who are still political, but not necessarily correct. Sample \$1.50sub. \$6 more if/less if. LesCon, 584 Castro, No. 236G, SF, CA 94114. (18.35)

### BROOMSTICK

A quarterly national feminist political journal by, for, and about women over forty. 3543 18th St. #3, San Francisco, CA 94110. Yearly subscriptions: U.S. : \$15, Canada, \$20, (U.S. funds). Overseas and Institutions \$25. Sample copy \$5. Free to incarcerated women over forty.

### "OH MY COCK"

"One queen, one cock, two balls and the copy machine at work." *Oh My Cock*, the nastiest little gay sex zine, is coming soon. For info, send SASE (legal envelope) to GCN Box OMC. (34)

# PRISONERS SEEKING FRIENDS

I like art, reading, country and rock music. Needing and hoping for a "friend and lover." Please no games. Ricky Neal Elamon, #96677, Northpoint Training Center-Dorm 6-LL. PO Box 479, Burgin, KY 40310

GM, 26 seeking correspondence from someone who is romantic, affectionate, understanding, honest, confident, warm, sharing. Anthony Williams, #120588, Louisiana State Penitentiary, Camp-D, Gator 4-R-6, Angola, LA 70712

Dominant 23 y.o. gay American Indian "male." Really would like to make new friends and exchange letters—sex letters too! Interests are reading, writing, computer science, kick boxing and working out. Jerry Walker, #470151, Rt 4, Box 1200, Rosharon, TX 77583-8820

GWM wishes to correspond with gay man. No games and no BS. Mark A. Robinson, DOC #910512, Westville Corr. Center, PO Box 473, Westville, IN 46391-0473

Witty Cape Verdean (Portuguese & African) 25 y.o. Gemini from East Coast who unfortunately is in "tired" Calif, desires to meet an equivalent counterpart for correspondence, etc. Can write other prisoners that aren't in CA. Gianni Gomes, 1600 California Drive, Dept: D-97767, U-247, Vacaville CA 95696

I am a 25 y.o. who's been incarcerated for five years and I am soon to be free. I would like to correspond with a gay male between the age of 19-40. I carry myself with respect and hope others will do the same. Darnell Leoward, 90A6872, Box 149, Attica Corr. Facility, Attica, NY 14011

I'm 34, I'll write anybody that will write me, I love reading and writing, plus I like to cook. Glenn Hudson, BC-5808, Graterford, PA 19426-0244

Black male, likes reading, cooking, biking, swimming, fem-men, queens, T.S., T.V., etc. Garrick Daniels, 90-A-9428/Drawer B/Roule 216, Stromville, NY 12582-0010, B-3-313

GBM inmate, thought of changing my name to loneliness! Please need to hear from other gays color unimportant I will write all. Angello Williams, 80-B-1329, Box 500, Elmira, NY 14902

Attention!! 19 y.o. GWM, looking for a man to love and cherish. Interests include: poetry, music, art, cars and a romantic night at home with my lover. So if you're my lucky man, write to: Claude C. Johnson, SID #8358972, Oregon State Penitentiary, 2605 State St. Salem OR 97310. No prisoners.

I'm in a protective custody one man cell, and it's hard to talk to anyone. I'm gay, I would like some correspondence with TV's and TS's, mostly, but would correspond with anyone out there! John L. Martinez, #97973, Unit-32-B-Bldg. Cell-17, Parchman, MS 38738

GWM inmate lonely and getting short have pen full of ink but no one to write seeks friend/lover will ans. all please write. Rex Koytula, 91A517, PO Box 500, Elmira, NY 14902

39 y.o, interests are music, classic movies, massage and cuddling, plenty o f love to share with someone special. Wayne Tubbs, PO Box 250, Draper, Utah, 84020

30 y.o., nice personality, speak truthfully, what's on my mind. Hobbies are: all sports, country music, Rock & Roll, good movies, making things with my hands. Craig Parrett, D-21024, B-5-B-220, P.O. Box 29, Represa CA 95611

I hunger for some type of freindship-association which doesn't revolve around the prison-violence mentality. I am freindly and easygoing. I love cats and sailing. Don Cleo Day, E22707, 4A3R 60, PO Box 60, PO Box 3476, Corcoran, CA 93212

# WOMEN SEEKING FRIENDS

32 y.o. dominate female looking to correspond with sincere minded people. Can't write other prisoners. Gwendolyn Jones, 152717, PO Box 8540/35, Pembroke Pines FL 33024

Black woman looking for a Black woman. I just want a true woman. I want someone that's willing to spend their life with another woman. Bascially I want a friendship from the beginning if your interested you can write me. Naze Simmons, PO Box 180, Muncy, PA 17756. The gay life is my life. Try me you surely will like it.

Single, sexy, Bi. Looking for good sex, clean and kinky. Fun is a must!! You only live once, come on write me the best. Collecting sexy lingerie and making love in the rain turn me on. Only sincere should write. Ages 25-60. Sherri Kelley, P.O. Box 109-3822, PeeWee Valley, KY 40056



37 y.o. GM, very young at heart would love to write someone, only down for a short time, loves outdoors and romances, music. Main interest is improving myself and finding someone to share thoughts and feelings. Daniel Kelly, #038394, PO Box 1072, Arcadia Fl 33821

GBM, age 32, incarcerated and looking for gay friends with interests in sports, poetry, sexcapades, spiritualism. No inmates. Frank Elijah Smith, #04692, Florida State Prison, PO Box 747, Starke, FL 32091

6 months until I'm free. Lonely 24 y.o. redhead looking for that one man to take care of me. I'm caring & willing to learn anything. Write Pat Garrett, PO Box 8288, Boise, Idaho 83707

GWM, 23 y.o. seeks a loyal long lasting relationship with a non smoker, disease free understanding GM. No drugs. David Duplantis, C-P, Unit 32C, Parchman, MO. 38738

I don't have any family. I'm looking for someone that wants to meet a young guy for friendship and maybe more. I'm looking for someone open minded and honest and that can help me out from time to time. Jimmy Cole, #96613, PO Box 97, McAlester, OK 74502

Lonely gay angel needs your letters. Will answer all. Angel Flores, #189284, PO Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699-0001

I will be released from this hellhole very soon, I have been incarcerated for several years, and have lost all my family and friends over the years. I have no place to go upon my release. I am very clean and neat, willing to pay my way if someone will find it in their heart the desire to help a gay brother get on his feet. I can and will work doing most anything to make my own way. I know chances are not in my favor, but I hope and pray someone will read this and want to give me a chance. Gerald Phelps, #117296, Camp C, Jaquar 4-Left-3, LA State Prison, Angola, LA 70712

Black bisexual male, I am a lonely prisoner looking for mature and understand gay male for correspondence and possibly a relationship and race or age is not a factor. Lesley Dawson, 213-276, PO Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699-0001

I'm 35 very easygoing and will a good sense of humor. I am not particular who should write. Gerald Rubalcaba, Box 7500, B #85887, SHU C9, B105, Crescent City, CA 95532-7500

Interested in corresponding with someone from the Northern Calif. area. I'm 39 and a weightlifter. Mark Christiansen, 19762-008, PO Box 1000, Oxford, WI 53952

# Calendar

## 7 SATURDAY

Norton ♦ Wheaton College Women's Music Festival features Casselberry-DuPrée, Cate Curtis. 8pm, Cole Chapel, junct. Rte. 123 & Rte. 495. Tickets \$10. Accessible. For more info (508) 285-7722 x222 or (508) 285-0389.

Boston ♦ "I Read About My Death In *Vogue* Magazine," play by Lydia Sargent, 8pm at The Newbury Street Theater, 565 Boylston Street. Co-sponsored by Women's Studies Program at Northeastern University. \$10. For reservations/student rate info call 262-7779.

Boston ♦ "Beyond AIDS" healing workshop with George Melton. 9:30am-5:30pm, Boston Living Center, 140 Clarendon Street. \$5 sug.; no one turned away. For more info 262-5114. Also see March 6 listing.

Cambridge ♦ Judith Sloan, NY comic, and Kathy Phipps, acoustic singer-songwriter perform at Indigo/Nightstage, 823 Main St., 8pm. Tickets \$7.50 at box office and Ticketmaster. For more info 884-5540.

Cambridge ♦ Meeting to form N.E. chapter of American Baptists Concerned, a support/action group addressing lesbian, gay, bisexual issues. 6 pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Massachusetts Ave. Bring potluck dish. For more info 864-8068.

Cambridge ♦ Les/Gay/BI sock hop with Swinging Suednes, spons. by Swingtime Boston. 8:15pm-midnight; Jitterbug lesson 8:15-9pm. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Massachusetts Ave. Smoke/alcohol-free, no partner necess. \$6 admission. For more info 629-2219.

Lowell ♦ Women's Dance sponsored by Shared Times. 7:30pm, VFW Post 662, 190 Plain St. Advance tickets only, \$6. For ticket info, etc. (508) 441-9081 or (508) 689-9396.

Boston ♦ PrideTime (G/L Cable TV) Travel Special: San Francisco. Boston Cable Channel 3A & 8A, 7:30pm. (Repeating March 15th.)

Jamaica Plain ♦ Purty Gates in concert, playing guitar, banjo, bamboo saxophone & harmonica. 7-8 pm, Cronos' Harvest, 761 Centre Street. Also performing Mar. 8. For more info 983-9530 tty-ldd.

Cambridge ♦ Open discussion on coming out for women of all ages, 11am-1pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For more info 354-8807 (TTY/voice)

Brookline ♦ Am Tikva 15th anniversary dance party at the Holiday Inn, 1200 Brookline Street, 8pm. \$18/person. For more info/reservations 926-2536.

## 8 SUNDAY

Cambridge ♦ Int'l Women's Day Concert, a benefit for GCN featuring the Batacoda Belles, the Red Hot Vulvas, the Brood, readings by Lesa Lessard and Tina Portillo and films by Julie Zammarchi. at Middle East Cafe, 472 Mass. Ave. 9pm. \$6. For more info 354-8238.

Boston ♦ Multicultural Festival, 12:30pm-4:30pm, Boston YWCA, 140 Clarendon St. \$3 suggested at door. For more info 536-7940 x110

Boston ♦ Lecture, brunch, and discussion on Issues facing adult children of alcoholic/dysfunctional families. The Paulist Center, 5 Park Street, 1:30pm-5pm. Admission \$7. For more info 666-2041.

Boston ♦ Monthly meeting of New England Association of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Psychologists. 10am-noon at the Center, 338 Newbury St. For more info 593-4293.

Cambridge ♦ Int'l Women's Day suggestion: send a donation in the name of a woman important to you to the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, 99 Blisph Allen Drive, Cambridge, 02139. They will send a card to your friend acknowledging your donation.

Brookline ♦ Swing, ballroom, tap, 2-step classes for gay/lesbian/bisexual people. New session begins today; meets Sundays and Thursdays. All levels. For more information 522-1444.

## 9 MONDAY

Boston ♦ Legislative and Electoral Task Force meets at Boston NOW, 971 Commonwealth Ave., 7pm. For more info 782-1056.

Cambridge ♦ GAMIT (Gays at MIT) sponsors Family Feud, the gay version. 7pm, MIT, 77 Mass Ave, Room 4-163. For info: Johanna 225-7127.

Boston area ♦ Lesbian school teachers/administrators potluck, 6:30pm. For info, directions call 244-5029.

## 10 TUESDAY

Boston ♦ "We Won't Go Back" introductory meeting to organize Boston NOW's delegation to April 5 mobilization in DC. For details, location call Lynn at 782-1056.

Boston ♦ Racial and Ethnic Diversity Committee meets at Boston NOW, 971 Commonwealth Ave., 7pm. For more info 782-1056.

Amherst ♦ Monthly meeting of P-FLAG/Pioneer Valley (Parents, Families, Friends, Lesbians, and Gays). 7:30pm, Parish Hall of Grace Episcopal Church, near Town Common. For more info (413) 532-4883.

Cambridge ♦ Super Tuesday 1992: Come watch election returns on the big screen at the ARCO Forum of Public Affairs, John F. Kennedy School of Gov't., Harvard. 79 JFK St. 6pm. Free, accessible. For more info 495-1380.

Cambridge ♦ "Queering the Canon: Gilgamesh, Genesis, & Star Trek Fan Fiction," lecture by Prof. David Halperin. Spons. by GAMIT (Gays at MIT).

7pm, MIT, 77 Mass Ave, Rm. 4-163. For more info: Johanna 225-7127.

Brockton ♦ Healing Service for all affected by AIDS. 7:30pm, St. Patrick's Church, 335 Main St. Co-sponsored by the Ecumenical Task Force on AIDS Inc. ASL interpreted. For more info 628-7665.

## 11 WEDNESDAY

Boston ♦ Reproductive Rights Task Force meets at Boston NOW, 971 Commonwealth Ave., 7pm. For more info 782-1056.

Cambridge ♦ "The True World Order: Rebuild America," address by Rev. Jesse Jackson. ARCO Forum of Public Affairs, JFK School of Gov't., Harvard. 79 JFK St. 8pm. Free, accessible. For more info 495-1380.

Cambridge ♦ "Religion & Sexuality," panel discussion. Spons. by GAMIT (Gays at MIT). 7:30pm, MIT, 77 Mass Ave, Rm. 4-163. For more info: Johanna 225-7127.

## 12 THURSDAY

Boston ♦ Greater Boston Business Council. Networking Party. Alley Cat/Crescent Club, 1 Boylston St. \$2 members, \$4 guests, cost includes full dinner. Reservations required. For more info 236-GBBC.

Cambridge ♦ "Race & Sexuality," discussion with speaker TBA. Spons. by GAMIT (Gays at MIT). 7pm, MIT, 77 Mass Ave, Rm. 6-120. For more info: Johanna 225-7127.

Boston ♦ "Talking Back: How to Present Feminist Issues". Participatory workshop by the Young Feminist Committee. Sponsored by Boston NOW. 7pm, 971 Commonwealth Ave. For more info 782-1056.

Amherst ♦ *Entre Nous* shown by UMass/Amherst Program for Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Concerns. 7pm, Campus Center Rm. 908. Admission free. For more info (413) 545-4824.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbians Choosing Children Network 7:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For more info 354-8807 (TTY/voice)

Cambridge ♦ Women's Group of Queer Nation, 7pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Also meets March 26. For more info 354-8807 (TTY/voice)

Boston ♦ Forum: "HIV in the Workplace." Testing of healthcare workers and patients—whom does it protect? 7-9pm, Roxbury Community College Rm. 102. Sponsored by Mass. Coalition for Occ. Safety & Health. For more info: Sol Rodriguez, 524-6686.

Boston ♦ "Pain Management in HIV and AIDS." Panel discussion at Boston Living Center, 140 Clarendon St (7th floor of YWCA). 7-9pm. Free. For more info or to request ASL, call 267-0900 x287.

Portland, ME ♦ ACT UP fifth anniversary. retrospective, 7:30-9pm, Rines Auditorium, Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq. Sponsored by The Matlovich Society. Accessible/interpreted. For more info (207) 657-2850.

## 13 FRIDAY

Cambridge ♦ DOB Couples' rap: "Fair Fighting." Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Massachusetts Ave. 8pm. For more info 661-3633.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian couples: come play pool, 8pm at Mad Maggie's. Sponsored by the Women's Center. Info: Marcia (508) 531-8670.

Cambridge ♦ GAMIT BGLAD Dance. 9pm, Walker Memorial, 142 Memorial Dr. \$3 w/student ID, \$4 w/o. \$1 more after 10:30pm. Beer/wine w/ID. For more info: Johanna 225-7127.

Lee, MA ♦ A Weekend with our Brothers...Two! Celebration in the Berkshires for Gay/Bisexual Men, 4pm Friday to 2pm Sunday. Must reg. in advance (attendance limited). Sliding scale fee \$85-\$150. For more info: Sean (617) 437-7238, Wayne (617) 522-1341, John (617) 859-8827.

Portland, ME ♦ Workshop: "A Comprehensive Approach to AIDS." Co-sponsored by The Matlovich Society and PWA Coalition. 12:30-2:30pm, 72 Pine Street. Donations accepted; free for PWAs. Accessible. For more info (207) 657-2850.

## 14 SATURDAY

Boston ♦ Meeting to organize '93 March on Washington. Everyone welcome. 11am, Boston Center for Lesbians & Gay Men, 338 Newbury St. Accessible. For more info 262-3149.

Providence ♦ Cheryl Wheeler will be appearing at Brown University's Solomon Hall. For time, directions, call Wendy Becker, (401) 861-5969.

Wellesley ♦ Reception for Lesbian alumnae of Wellesley College and current students, staffs and faculty at the College Club. 5:30-7:30pm. For info/RSVP, (508) 651-1066 or (617) 235-0320 x2613.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Kay Gardner in concert, 8pm at Cronos' Harvest, 761 Centre Street. \$8. All welcome. For more info 983-9530 tty-ldd.

Cambridge ♦ DOB singles' rap: "Single and Loving It." Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Massachusetts Ave. 7pm. For more info 661-3633.

## 15 SUNDAY

Boston ♦ PrideTime (G/L Cable TV) Travel Special: San Francisco. Boston Cable Channel 3A & 8A, 7:30pm.

Cambridge ♦ "American Issues '92: The Commonwealth of Independent States and the U.S. after the Cold War," panel discussion/live TV broadcast about the presidential campaign. ARCO Forum of Public Affairs, JFK School of Gov't., Harvard. 79

JFK St. 7:30pm. Free, accessible. For more info 495-1380.

Boston ♦ St. Patrick's Day Parade: March with the Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Pride Committee. Meet at 12 noon in front of Dandy Doughnuts, 220 Dorchester Ave., near Broadway T. For more info 695-8051.

## 16 MONDAY

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Partners & Ex-Partners of Incest Survivors, 7-8:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For more info 354-8807 (TTY/voice)

Boston ♦ Activists of Color/White Activists Dialogue, workshop sponsored Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Speakers Bureau and the National Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays. 7:00 pm, Plomonte Room, Boston City Hall. Free admission. For more info 492-4639.

## 18 WEDNESDAY

Boston ♦ "Nutrition and HIV." Fenway Community Health Ctr., 7 Haviland St. 7-9pm. Accessible. Free. For info/to request ASL, call 267-0900 x287.

Cambridge ♦ DOB play reading. For meeting place, time call 262-3724.

## 19 THURSDAY

Boston ♦ "Out, Loud & Proud." Readings by Melvin Dixon, Dorothy Allison, Assoto Saint, Jacquelyn Park, Walta Borawski, Stephen McCauley, Pat Powell, and Olga Broumas. A benefit for GCN at Arlington St. Church, Arlington & Boylston Sts. 7:30pm. \$8. For info 426-4469.

Boston ♦ "Support and Discussion Group for HIV Negative Gay/Bisexual Men." Rm. 201, Fenway Community Health Ctr., 7 Haviland St. 7-9pm. Accessible. Free. For info/to request ASL, call 267-0900 x287.

## 20 FRIDAY

Cambridge ♦ DOB open discussion. Old Cambridge Baptist Church; 1151 Massachusetts Ave. 8:00pm. For more info 661-3633.

Boston ♦ Shabbat services/discussion with gay/lesbian havurah of Temple Israel, Longwood and the Riverway. 8:15pm. For more info 254-1166.

## 21 SATURDAY

Boston ♦ "Out is In." Join 2,000 OutWrite conference-goers for the lesbian and gay dance party of the year! A benefit for GCN and Out/Look magazine. at the Park Plaza Hotel Ballroom, 64 Arlington Street, 9pm-2am. \$10

Boston ♦ Get Involved! GCN Community Meeting for OutWrite attendees and others. Come and learn how you can be a part of the community newspaper of the lesbian and gay movement. Meeting held at the Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., in the Clarendon room on the mezzanine level. 12:30-2pm. Brown bag lunch. All welcome. For info 426-4469.

Boston ♦ Meeting to organize Boston Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade & Rally. New members welcome. 2pm, the Center, 338 Newbury St. Accessible. For more info 262-3149.

Danvers ♦ Potluck pizza and games night at North Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 323 Locust St. (Rte. 35). 6:30-10:30pm. Last name 2st initials A-J bring pizza; K-P salad; O-Z dessert. Also bring board games. Sponsored by N. Shore Gay/Lesbian Alliance, PO Box 806, Marblehead, MA 01945.

Boston ♦ Ambassadors' Gala Ball. Part of American Jewish Congress' Nat'l Biennial Convention. 8:30pm at the State House. For more info 330-9630.

Boston ♦ Workshop to assist N.E. media artists in applying for grant money/equipment usage. 10am-5pm. Boston Film/Video Foundation, 1126 Boylston St. For workshop sign-up/grant app. form, info 536-1540.

## 22 SUNDAY

Boston ♦ Wild Women "Flirt with Flowers" at the Spring Flower Show. For more info 262-3724.

Boston ♦ First-hand report on peace talks by Israeli Ambassador Zalman Shoval. Part of American Jewish Congress' Nat'l Biennial Convention. 8am. For location/general info 330-9630.

Jamaica Plain ♦ "Financial Planning for Alternative Lifestyles" with Wendy Traynor. 2-4 pm, Cronos' Harvest, 761 Centre Street. For more info 983-9530 tty-ldd.

Portland, ME ♦ "Gay and Jewish in Hitler's Europe." Talk by Richard Plant, author. Co-sponsored by The Matlovich Society. 7:30-9pm, Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Sq. Accessible, ASL. For more info (207) 657-2850.

## SATURDAYS

Boston ♦ 40+ Lesbians. Social group sponsoring potlucks, billiards, plays, brunches, new members welcome. For more info 891-3711, 599-4472.

Boston ♦ BLOW (Boston's Leathermen On Wheels). New social club for gay motorcyclists now forming. For more info and location 783-9296.

Boston ♦ Frontrunners. Meet at Metropolitan Health Club for 2 to 5-mi. run along Charles. Lockers and showers \$1.00. 10am. Also: Tues. 11:45pm. at MHC; Wed. 6:45 pm. at Hatch Shell; Sun. 3:00pm. at Jamaica Pond Boathouse. Info: Sara 524-4025.

Cambridge ♦ Single Mothers' Support Group. Free drop-in group with child care, alternate Saturdays. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 11am-12:30 pm. 354-8807.

Boston ♦ Pink Flamigos. TV/TS of New England. 4 to 6 pm. 338 Newbury St., 2nd flr. 247-2927.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Women's Coffeehouse. Musical entertainment, usually. 8 pm. Cronos' Harvest, 761 Centre St. \$5 suggested donation. 983-9530.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Couples Group, 11am-1pm last Saturday each month, Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For info: Marcia (508) 531-8670 or (617) 354-8807.

## SUNDAYS

Woburn ♦ Chiltern Tennis Assoc. Meets each Sun. for singles and doubles. For more info (508) 670-0988.

Boston ♦ Boston Alliance of G/L Youth (BAGLY) Drop-In Center. St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin. (800) 42BAGLY.

Boston ♦ Work Issues Support Group. 2 to 4 pm G/L Comm. Ctr., 338 Newbury St.

Boston ♦ Narcotics Anonymous. L/GM. The Center, 338 Newbury St. 8 pm. 247-2927.

Boston ♦ Different Strokes Swim Team. Coached work-outs for swimmers of all abilities. 10:15. Info: 767-0449 or 282-3110.

Northampton ♦ 1992 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Pride

March Steering Committee meets 2-5pm at The Family Planning Council's 3rd floor conference room. Public also welcome. Accessible. Info, donations: PO Box 280, Hadley, MA 01035.

## MONDAYS

Manchester, NH ♦ ACT UP/NH. Meets Mondays. Manchester Public Library, 405 Pine St. 7pm. For more info (603) 647-4224.

Boston ♦ New Support Group for Recovering Women with HIV/AIDS. Sponsored by Women, Inc. Call Magda or Christine for a screening interview 442-6166.

Boston ♦ Monday Night Dinners for PWA's and Friends: about 100 people meeting every Monday at AAC for dinner. No reservations required. 6 p.m. AAC, 131 Clarendon St. 437-6200.

Boston ♦ Queer Nation meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at new location: Local 26, 58 Berkeley, 3rd Floor. 7:00 pm.

Worcester ♦ AIDS Project Worcester. A support group for family, friends, concerned others dealing with HIV. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 pm. (508) 755-3773.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap (topics vary) 7:30-9pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For more info 354-8807 (TTY/voice)

## TUESDAYS

Boston ♦ Teilliat Refuat Hanefesh. "Service of the Healing of the Soul." for Jewish Patients, their families and healthcare providers. First Tues. of month. 6pm. For more info 566-3960.

Boston ♦ Gay Fathers of Greater Boston. Meetings held 1st and 3rd Tues. of month. Lindemann Center, 25 Stanford St. \$2 donation. 8-10pm. For info 742-7897.

Boston ♦ Boston Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays. 2nd Tues. of month. Harriet Tubman House, 566 Columbus Ave. For more info 424-6989.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Batacoda Belles rehearsal. Open to women of color. Multicultural Arts Center, Centre St. 7-9pm. For more info 864-5067.

Providence, RI ♦ ACT UP/Rhode Island. Call for meeting place (401) 461-4191.

Boston ♦ ACT UP/Boston. The Living Center, YWCA, 140 Clarendon St. 7 p.m. 49-ACTUP.

Cambridge ♦ Eating Awareness and Body Image Group. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 7-9pm. 354-8807.

Medford Radio ♦ Dyke on the Mike with the Nolsy Nelly Show — queer radio. WMFO 91.5FM. 10am-12pm. Tufts U. radio. For info 381-3800.

Worcester ♦ Support Group for HIV+ G/B Men and Their Significant Others. Closed meeting. AIDS Project Worcester. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 p.m. (508) 755-3773.

Cambridge ♦ 30+ Lesbian Rap (topics vary) 7-8:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For more info 354-8807 (TTY/voice)

## WEDNESDAYS

Boston ♦ Women in the Building Trades will be offering free introductory workshops. 6:00-8:00pm from 10/30-12/4. At 555 Amory St. Call 524-3010 to pre-register or for info.

Boston ♦ Sales Networks Program for G/L Business Owners and Supporters of the Community. 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. The Center, 338 Newbury St., 2nd flr. Registration required: Marc Spencer 262-2400.

Boston ♦ Boston Alliance of G/L Youth (BAGLY). Open to youth age 22 and under. 35 Bowdoin St. New persons' meeting 6 pm.; women and men meet separately 6:45 to 7:30; general meeting 7:30 pm. (800) 42-BAGLY.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian AI-Anon. Wheelchair accessible. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 6:30 to 8 p.m. 354-8807.

Amherst ♦ Queer Nation meets 6:00-7:00pm at Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk. Info: P.O. Box 202, Hadley, MA 01035 or (413) 584-4213.

## THURSDAYS

Worcester ♦ "Face the Music." A radio show by and for lesbians. WCUW 91.3 FM. 8-9pm. Request line. (508) 753-2284

Boston ♦ The Boston Monthly HIV Medical Update. 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30pm. John Hancock Conference Center, 40 Trinity Place (near Copley Green and Back Bay/South End Orange T stations). Info: 262-3456.

Somerville ♦ The Thursday Night Dinner Program offers meals to PWA's HIV+ and friends at the Methodist Church. One block from Davis Square Red Line Station. Info: 666-4130.

Portsmouth, NH ♦ Out and About. A lesbian social and support group. Info: Keryn (603) 749-5852.

Boston ♦ The Group. Discussion and social hour. The Center, 338 Newbury St. 734-2076.

Boston ♦ Lesbian and Gay Caucus of the National Writer's Union. The Center. 6-8pm. 338 Newbury St. For info 442-4693, 344-8096.

## FRIDAYS

Watertown ♦ GLOW: G/L of Watertown. 395-4664.

Boston ♦ GCN Friday Night Stuffing Party. Come stuff the paper, eat pizza, and make new friends. GCN, 62 Berkeley St. 5 p.m. 426-4469.

Provincetown ♦ Safe Sex Brigade and Anti-L/G/B Violence Campaign. Volunteers meet on steps of P'Town Post Office Friday and Sunday nights at 11:30 p.m. through Labor Day. Info: ACT UP (508) 487-2063.

Danbury, CT ♦ Danbury Area Gay Men's Support Group. 312 Main St. 7:30-9pm. For more info (203) 744-0104.

Boston ♦ Friday Night at the Movies. The Center. 7pm. \$2 suggested donation. 338 Newbury St. For info 247-2927.

## ONGOING

Albany, NY ♦ April 1, 1992: deadline for submissions of presentation proposals for "Lesbian/Gay Affirmative Practice in the '90s," November 7 conference. Spons. by National Ass'n of Social Workers. Posters, roundtables, panels, papers, workshops, all levels. For more info: Arlene Istar, NASW NYS Chapter Office, 1-800-724-6279/(518) 463-4741.

Madison, WI ♦ Tired of remote/unresponsive election campaigns? Use your fax machines during March for communication/social change. Fax pictures, drawings, documents, photos to (608) 251-0712. All images to be exhibited at Survival Graphics, 853 Williamson. For more info write Lora Jost, Fax Art Response, 414 S. Mills, Madison, WI 53715.

By Michael Bronski  
1991

**F**ebruary 13: Ellen Herman calls and explains that she has been speaking to Jeff Escoffier, the publisher of the lesbian and gay quarterly *OutLook*, who says that they are thinking of having the third annual OutWrite Conference in Boston—co-sponsored by *Gay Community News*—next year. Sounds like a great idea.

**February 14:** Am behind in three deadlines, can barely remember to make my chiropractic appointment and am getting stress headaches from being on the GCN Personnel Committee. Any work on new major projects is out of the question. The conference is out of the question.

**February 16:** Realize that planning a writer's conference is a perfect excuse to give to editors for late copy. Call Ellen and tell her I'm all for bringing OutWrite to Boston in 1992.

**March 1:** Arrive in San Francisco for OutWrite '91. 1600 writers and editors and publishers gathering at plenary session gives incredible feeling of power and solidarity.

**March 2:** My panel on the early gay and lesbian presses goes very well. During coffee break two cute men dressed entirely in leather cruise me in hotel lobby. Determined to bring OutWrite to Boston. Or at least find out the names of the men.

**March 3:** Feeling very good about conference. Meet a lot of old friends, like Allan Brube and Mark Thompson, and make new ones. Meet with Jeff Escoffier and Lisa Hall from *OutLook*. They are eager for OutWrite '92 to be in Boston. They are also worn out, near hysteria, physically ill and emotionally broken. Have second thoughts about ending up in same condition. But then I finally meet one of the leather-men; we make out in hotel lobby. He turns out to be an ex-nun (well, a Sister of Perpetual Indulgence), but then, this is San Francisco.

**April 15:** Back in Boston. First meetings with Ellen Herman, Amy Hoffman, Phil Harper, Isaac Jackson, Siang Huat Chua, Chris Wittke, Karin Aguillar San Juan, and myself. Coffee and chit-chat. Everything seems fine.

**May 30:** Several more people, including

## A conference journal

*One member of the OutWrite '92 Planning Committee discovers the unpredictable world of conference organizing*



Sue Hyde, join the planning committee and enjoy more coffee and chit-chat. Everybody has her or his ideas and favorite suggestions for keynote speakers and panel topics. The staff at *Gay Community News* is very excited about co-sponsoring the conference but point out—not unreasonably—that they cannot put out a weekly paper and do a lot of conference work. We all decide it is still too early to do any work.

**August 20:** Time to really start thinking about the conference. We have three meetings within two weeks to form committees. We also realize that we don't know what we are doing. Luckily, Sue has worked on the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force's Creating Change conferences and has some concrete ideas.

**September 17:** In the middle of a planning committee meeting we get a call from Jeff at *OutLook*, who tells us that they may have

changed their minds about the conference being in Boston. They can't decide. We are furious and relieved. We demand an immediate answer. Jeff calls back in an hour and tells us that OutWrite '92 will definitely be in Boston. We are furious and relieved.

**October 15:** Planning is underway. There are bi-weekly meetings and sub-committees have formed. We discuss what we mean by diversity. We discuss how we will ever get any of this done. There are long, heated discussions about who should be asked to be keynote speakers. In one eight-hour meeting we brainstorm 500 names of people who should be on panels and workshops. Everyone seems to agree. Something must be wrong.

**October 18:** Michele Karlsberg, a lesbian free-lance publicist from New York offers to put together a reading series of 75 poets and

fiction writers for the conference. We like the idea and she begins work.

**October 30:** Sue, Ellen and I begin negotiations with the Sheraton Hotel. I'm amazed at how friendly they are to us and how eager they are for us to hold OutWrite there. I figure that social revolution has occurred in the past week but no one told me about it. Sue points out that 2000 queers (or 2000 of anybody for that matter) will spend a lot of money. There I go confusing capitalism with social progress again. Must make a note to stop this.

**November 20:** We begin to think of what sort of panels we want to have. Everybody agrees on "Lesbian Porn Writers Have Sex In Front Of An Audience" and "Oral History or Oral Sex?," but these topics are dropped when we discover that we cannot find impartial moderators. In the space of two hours, we brainstorm close to 75 panel ideas and manage to cut it down to 50.

**November 30:** We get the final bid and it turns out that the Sheraton is into more capitalism than we thought. All of their "hidden costs" are right up front. It looks as though we would have to get Donald Trump and Leona Helmsley to underwrite OutWrite if we are to stay at the Sheraton.

**December 1:** Begin negotiations with the Park Plaza (the only other hotel, in Boston, which is unionized and accessible.) They are nice, eager to have OutWrite and the place is cheap. I understand about capitalism now and the Park Plaza people seem to understand our budget. It works out fine. At our meeting with their salespeople we also get a free dinner with a fluffy dessert included. I'm such an easy lay.

**December 15:** We begin to put panels together. Lots of energy and attempts to balance fiction and non-fiction, journalism and creative writing. When we begin to assign people to panels, we suddenly realize that four of the writers we thought of back in October have died of AIDS. So goes conference planning in the 1990s.

1992

**January 20:** Sue has been busy sending out press releases and fliers. We all begin calling writers to be on panels. All of them

*Continued on page 11*

Join 2,000 OutWrite attendees for

# OUT IS IN

The Lesbian & Gay Dance Party of the Year

Saturday  
**MARCH 21**

**PARK PLAZA  
HOTEL BALLROOM**  
64 Arlington Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dance the night away  
with Boston's hottest DJs  
and appearances by  
**ADULT CHILDREN  
OF HETEROSEXUALS**  
and SOME VERY SPECIAL  
SURPRISE GUESTS



**\$10** at door to benefit *Gay Community News* and *OUT/LOOK Quarterly*